

# AND YOU CALL THIS FUN?



paragon 2008



Blake Platt  
senior



Ted Hanak  
senior



Zack Vega  
sophomore



Kelly Mashura  
senior



## **all in a day's work**

**academics 24**

**student life 42**

**people**

**seniors 58**

**juniors 76**

**sophomores 84**

**freshmen 92**

**faculty 100**

## **and then some**

**sports**

**fall 108**

**winter 130**

**spring 144**

**clubs pg 156**

**reference 170**

**Ads 180**

**Index 200**

**AND  
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breaking the mold With a mid-air chest slam, Brandon Ruiz and Steve Zelenika, seniors, begin their quest to get the crowd up for Battle of the Bridge against Highland. "We're crazy and we loved to get the fans pumped up for the game," Brandon said. Screaming, jumping around, and throwing people in the air at the Friday night game, the student section let loose, forgot about school and concentrated on enjoying time with their friends and classmates.

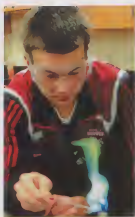


hats off In an attempt to lighten up French class, Alek Shmagranoff, senior, puts on his thinking cap. all smiles After a lap, Elle Kirby, junior, laughs at her teammates. in disguise Patient and still, Ethan Hansen, junior, stifles a laugh, while Mike McIntyre, junior, paints Ethan's face in Theater Arts class. pipping in in the zone, Ashley Spitz, freshman, concentrates on the notes while playing her flute at the Homecoming pep session.

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Enrollment: 1,655



# Catch a Break



In between juggling books and cramming for tests, students find ways to relax and put their pressures behind.

**Flooded with everything?** From the Girls' Golf Team loosing their home course to the August downpours to the flustered freshman swamped with her biology Life Portfolio or the frazzled junior who crammed to finish his Good vs. Evil research paper, everyone felt overwhelmed sometimes. Mixed between the frustrations, mini breaks in the grind, ranging from creative class projects like the psychology personality masks or colorful Little Books, to homemade pizza or juicy gossip caught between classes, lightened even the dreariest day.

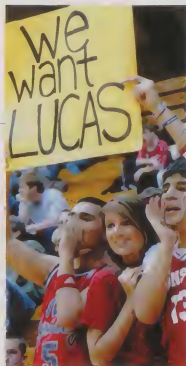


**busy in earth space,** Terry Grunewald, junior, examines the color given off when certain elements in stars burn. **while fixing** her contraption for the egg drop in physics, Yena Choi, sophomore, carefully puts on the finishing pieces. **dressed in feathers,** Brandon Lopez, junior, wears his bird costume for Pirate Day during Spirit Week.

**Unaccustomed to the new Contact Time,** 1,655 students piled into the cafeteria for the new uncomfortable crowding. Hoping to curb vandalism, the administration moved Contact Time to an unconventional 7:45 a.m. time slot: 26 minutes every Tuesday and Thursday morning. While some went out to breakfast and others played hackey-sack in the South lot, students soon adjusted to the unexpected change to the schedule.



**tender moment** At lunch, Nicole Montella, sophomore, contemplates food choices. "I usually ate chicken tenders everyday because it's the easiest [to eat] and I don't have to worry about what could possibly be in them," Nicole said. Nicole usually ate the school lunch three times a week to try not to overdo buying lunch at school.



**in demand** Loud and proud, juniors Erick Ferrer, Jill Koselke and Joe Martinez put in their request for Jeff Lucas, junior, to be in the game. "I wanted Lucas in the game, because I believed he was one of the best players, and the game before he really helped out," Joe said. Their "Lucas chant" finally paid off when Jeff took the floor.



**toss up** Hanging out in the South parking lot during Contact Time, Daniel Linnear, junior, kicks a hackey-sack to juniors Jordan Orr and Matt Stewart. "I came to school early that day mostly because I forgot we had Contact Time," Matt said. "I didn't want to go inside because then I'd have to go to the cafeteria, and I felt like a cow in there. You couldn't even walk around. It was so full you couldn't even find a seat."

“Look forward to passing periods every day because I always see new people and have new topics to talk about with my friends.”

**Christine Lissy,**  
sophomore

**mark it down** Sprawled in markers, Karen Gouwens, senior, lists the disadvantages of a business franchise for an Economics poster. "For a project, we had to understand a business," Karen said. "Each group had a different type of business."

**loud and clear** Shouting, Molly Scott, shows off her sophomore pride. "I was just having fun being there with all my friends," Molly said. Molly spirit soared on the Homecoming truck.

**make way** With hair flying, juniors Christina Terry and Chelsea Reed, dance in their colorful homemade Homecoming dresses. "People take dances too seriously," Christine said. "People need to relax and have fun."



**end of the line** Backs against the window, sophomores, Laura Aguilar and Katherine Bobeck wait for Laura's brother, José, to finish up with the Battle of the Band meeting. "The sun came in in the afternoon and made it warm, even in February," Laura said.







# Let Loose

As students delve into hard work, they still manage to find fun.

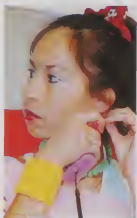
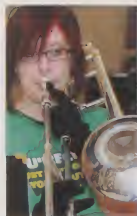
**No one expected** the notable accomplishments ranging from the Boys' Basketball Team's 15-game winning streak to suddenly come to a halt against East Chicago at Sectionals, to boys' tennis No. 1 Doubles team making it to State. Both boys' and girls' cross country ran all the way to State as teams, while Aaron Estrada, junior, made his third trip to Wrestling State where he finished in 7th place.

Hard work paid off in academics as well, as We The People Team Adams finished 7th in the nation at the May Nationals in Washington, DC, after beating Team Jefferson for the state title. Setting a new school record, 15 National Merit Finalists and 14 Commended students added their photos to the Academic Wall of Fame, as they took the state with the highest percentage of Finalists for an Indiana public high school.

As 488 students voted for Barack Obama in the school mock election on Super Tuesday, Obama led the pact amongst the students. Both Obama and Hillary Clinton battled it out for the national ticket, while students supported their candidate and mocked the other.

As gas prices skyrocketed to over \$4 per gallon and the economy moved towards a recession, finding cheap fun became harder to do. Whether hanging out at Meijer, or playing Rock Band and Guitar Hero as an alternative to the 3-month television writers' strike which crippled TV favorites, students turned to inexpensive entertainment.

Flooded with the unaccustomed changes, from Leap Year to a presidential primary, students pushed themselves to adjust... **AND YOU CALL THIS FUN?**



**warming her fingers**  
Lorissa Pietruszka, sophomore, plays the trombone during band class. **balloons**  
float in front of Karen Larsen, senior, at the French Club Mardi Gras party. in government Gerardo Ruiz, senior, listens to a court case lost in the moment. Cristal del Real, senior, watches seniors dance during 80s workout day.



# All in a Day's Work

“My chemistry class makes me laugh because Mr. Graves is such a funny teacher. He is so particular about how his class is run, which makes it even more enjoyable.”

Christina Pasyk,  
sophomore



sporting seniors' markings. Jenna Cecil, freshman, takes notes during Spirit Week. **deep in concentration**, Keith Shaw, junior, carefully measures a substance for chemistry. **hands together**, Sameera Raziuddin, junior, prays in the library during Study Hall. **after receiving** a spontaneous new look from his friends, Alex Martell, sophomore, works in his Spanish workbook.

Fears over tests and lecture notes vanish throughout the day, while students find escapes in everyday details.

As the 7:45 a.m. bell rudely started the routine the day turned out different than the anticipated endless note taking. Students tried to find the little breaks to lighten up the daily load. When they filled out a worksheet with friends or sat in the dark and watched a video, the relaxed atmosphere broke up the day. After a long test in Mr. Steve Lopez's AP U.S. History class, some looked forward to something less stressful.

As the crowd strolled down to the south end of the building and waited to get their hands dirty with cold, squishy clay, the aroma of fresh chocolate chip cookies from the foods room lingered in the air. The uproar of laughter from the classrooms poured out into the halls. As the bell rang, the mob walked down the halls and witnessed the crazy hairstyles the wrestling team shaved on their heads for Sectionals and the shades of shocking pink and electric yellow attire that the Dance Team wore the week before State.

After entering the classroom, a rush of anxiety hit the students as they prepared for the Julius Caesar speeches. However, classroom games such as fly swatter, helped whack the fun back into the day. The fun carried over to the weekends with school dances and plays. While students relaxed away from class, they made time to hang out and goof around with their friends... **AND YOU CALL THIS FUN?**



**nerd to the limit!** Disguised as a nerd for Spirit Week, Amanda Puryear, senior, dances to "White and Nerdy" by Weird Al. "Nerds wore bowties, tape around their glasses like Harry Potter, and pigtails," Amanda said. During Spirit Week students turned to Goodwill for unique clothes at a bargain price.



**open mind** While analyzing excerpts from *Beowulf* in AP English Literature, seniors Neil Keshvani, Buddy Becher, Andy Johnson, and Mrs. Tammy Daugherty enjoy the fresh autumn air. "Open air made for an open mind," Buddy said. "It was nice to enjoy the weather when it was warm." Buddy believed that the environment proved conducive to learning.

**nerdy birthday** With balloons in hand, Taylor Brian, senior, talks to her friends, Megan McKechnie and Alex Frakes, seniors, on Nerd Day during Spirit Week. "[My friends] decorated my car, got me balloons, made me a poster board, and got me gifts [for my birthday]," Taylor said. Taylor's friends helped her carry balloons and gifts around during school.

### 7:42 a.m.

Arms wrapped around his backpack making it into a pillow, David Chen, sophomore, drifts off during Contact Time. "I didn't have anyone to talk to, so I just would sleep," David said. "I sometimes can't sleep much at night, so resting my head before class was better than talking to no one."



### 5:15 a.m.

Eyes still half closed, Kate Dobis, sophomore, walks with Anna Pytinska, senior, through the pool doors on her way to swim practice. "You make a lot of good friends because you're with these people all of the time, and the hard work pays off. It all adds up in the end," Anna said. Swimmers practiced every morning at 5:20 a.m., and formed a close bond from all of the time spent together.



### 7:39 a.m.

Waiting for the bell to ring, Mike Becka and Teddy Hack, seniors, sit outside in the South Parking Lot before Contact Time. "I didn't want to go into the crowded cafeteria," Mike said. "We'd [sit outside] once it got warmer."





5:55 a.m.

Croggily hitting his alarm, Cabe Harangdy, senior, wakes up to another routine day. "I would get up at 5:55 a.m. every day," Cabe said. "It would usually take me about 15 minutes after I hit the alarm in order to be awake enough to move."

7:49 a.m.

On their way into school, Lori Hoffman and Kelly Wold, juniors, walk through the North lot. Students found themselves torn between loving or hating the new morning Contact Time. "I liked Contact Time because I could sleep in and go out for coffee before school with my friends," Lori said.



# Beat the Clock

Beep, beep, beep, beep!

What's that noise? With eyes still closed, you stretch out your arm to reach for the alarm clock. Squinting, you glance at the time, only to hit the snooze button for another 10 minutes of much needed sleep.

Beep, beep, beep, beep!

Your worst enemy, the clock, determines what you do each second during your daily routine. You try to find ways to break free from the daily grind to get by.



7:57 a.m.

With wallet in hand, Phil Gittens, junior, searches for his money to pay for a granola bar. "I liked Contact Time because I could buy breakfast, finish homework, talk to friends, and sleep," Phil said. Students who wanted to start off their day with a nutritious breakfast could find snacks in the Food Court.



7:54 a.m.

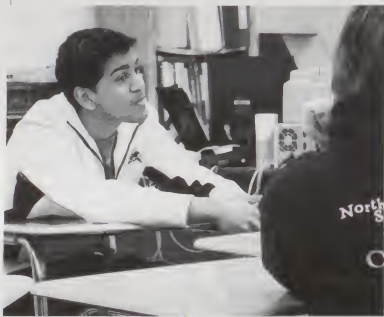
With Student ID out of her purse, Sam Mardylla, senior, signs her name for Mr. Brian Clark, Dean, allowing her to go for help during Contact Time. "It was something to adjust to," Sam said. "Contact Time was different at first, but you had to get used to it."

“It made me laugh when Mr. Rossiano, multiculturalism teacher, decided to make us do the Haka, a traditional dance of Maori tribesmen in New Zealand. We thought he was kidding, but it turned out to be for a grade, and he asked other classes to come and take pictures. We had to wear grass skirts, face paint, and everything!”

Amina Benman,  
senior

**10:33 a.m.**

Caught in discussion during a Jeopardy game in AP Psychology, Neil Doshi, senior, proves his point. Mrs. Juliann Acevez and other teachers used Jeopardy to help the students learn the material.



**10:30 a.m.**

**10:39 a.m.**

In American Sign Language, Stephanie Peulos, junior, anticipates the sound of the bell. “I wanted to get out of class,” Stephanie said. “I was bored and couldn’t pay attention any longer.” Stephanie finally got her wish when the sound of the bell rang through the school.





### 10:47 a.m.

Before Economics with Miss Sarah Szarmach, Ed Cier and Joe Abu-Aita, seniors, goof off. "We were helping pass the time before the bell rang," Ed said. "We were just pretending to box. We were in track for four years, so we've been friends for four years."



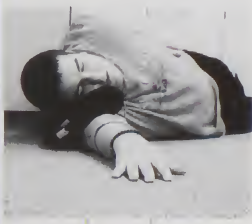
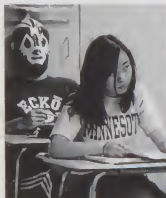
### 10:44 a.m.

Seated in Mr. Mike Hackett's health class, Sara Campbell, sophomore, finishes up her test. Mr. Hackett used games to help review for tests. "I liked the DVD game he used to review," Sara said. "[Mr. Hackett] was good at explaining material in a way that connected to you so it was easy to remember."



### 10:50 a.m.

In Mr. Paul LaReau's Spanish 4 class, Angela Hehn, senior, writes casually as Erick Ferrer, junior, hauntingly sits behind her wearing a Spanish matador mask. "I tried to be serious, but laughed because it was so random," Angela said. "Mr. LaReau just shook his head and went on with class." Mr. LaReau ignored Erick and continued going over homework.



### 11:07 a.m.

Sprawled out on the floor, Marko Stetevic, senior, naps during free time in Web Design with Mr. Jake Argenta. "Taking advantage of my free time in class was well worth it," Marko said.



### 10:42 a.m.

Carefully working on a calculation, Sam Flynn, sophomore, looks over a test in Mr. Steve Wroblewski's geometry class. "I actually understood exactly what I was doing," Sam said. "I just looked over the test and worked it out question by question."



### 10:58 a.m.

After getting through the hallway, Jenny Silverman, sophomore, grabs her books for class. "I shared with six other people, so it was always crowded and it took time to get stuff I needed," Jenny said.

11:10 a.m.

"The best part of my school day is probably the breaks between classes because I walk with my friends and talk about how the day has been so far, what they're doing after school or anything else that comes to mind."

Eric Roach, junior

11:42 a.m.

Deep into her book, Megan Mann, senior, lies on the bench in the Commons during lunch. "[The Commons] was a much calmer atmosphere than in the lunch room. I sat with Jenny Razez and we'd eat, chat, read, and laugh," Megan said. Reading became Megan's alternative to sleeping in school.

11:35 a.m.

At a booth, Jelena Grozdanic and Chantal Munsey, sophomores; and Chloe Morgan and Breck Scarnavack, juniors, chat about their day. "I enjoyed talking to my friends and catching up with them because I didn't have classes with them," Jelena said. "We would talk about our weekends or I'd check about a class later that day."



11:17 a.m.

Plate in sight, Jenna Roller and Rachel Rutkowski, juniors, decide on what they want to eat. The menus for lunches changed in order to create a healthier diet for students. Nutritious foods added to the variety of choices that could be made while waiting in line.

11:23 a.m.

Pringles in his mouth, Evan Maul, senior, snacks on chips with Jeff Bragiel, senior, in Mr. Glen Percfield's third hour Composition class. "We got into groups to do our projects. We were grubbin' and it was a good opportunity for a snack," Evan said. Jeff brought the chips from Stracks where he and Evan both work. "It was right before lunch, and I got hungry," Jeff said.







**11:53 a.m.**

With the increased student enrollment to 1,557 Camille Gonzalez, sophomore, squeezes into the packed Commons along with other students after lunch. "We should've had somewhere else to stand or they should have allowed us to go get our books out of our lockers or go back to class," Camille said. "It's ridiculous to have that many people in a small space."

**12:29 p.m.**

Swimmers Elaine Pilsas, freshman, and sophomore Katie Dobis and Gabby Rapin display their t-shirts for junior Elle Kirby's birthday. "Elle's birthday fell on one of the days of our [swimming] Spirit Week, so we decided to celebrate her birthday," Elaine said. "The girls put their hair up and wore big earrings like Elle always did."



**12:48 p.m.**

With jumbo pen in hand, Graham Hanas, junior, jots down notes during Mr. Larry Hautzinger's Physics class. "We were taking notes, and I just wanted to use the pen because it was weird and fun," Graham said. Graham received the pen for selling magazines for his foreign language class in order to raise money for the IU Honors program.

**2:27 p.m.**

After waking up from a nap Brandon Ruiz, senior, stretches in Composition class. "[I sat] in the back of the room where I could take naps," Brandon said. "It's what I do when I'm tired from a long weekend." Brandon tried to fit in naps whenever he felt tired.

**4:05 p.m.**

With sheet music at hand, Ally Lodewyck, freshman, begins to sing on stage during tryouts for *Gays and Dolls*. "I just kept singing the song over and over again, listened to the lyrics, and practiced for a couple of hours in order to get it perfect," Ally said.

**2:20 p.m.**

His phone hidden behind his backpack, Caleb Edens, senior, sends a text message to his friend. "I like to communicate with my friends as much as possible, that's why I texted in school," Caleb said. "I knew it was breaking the rules but I didn't mean anything by it." Viewing texting as an innocent offense, many students chose to stay in touch.



**2:50 p.m.**

After the 35-snow day winter, Sarah Galante, senior, clears off her car after school. "I hate winter," Sarah said. "Every time I thought it would stop [snowing] it'd keep going." Contrary to Sarah's view, Jessica Novotney, junior, delivers a snowy pay back to Jordan Orr, junior. "I was making fun of her aim and she got me back," Jordan said. Hitting nothing but Jordan, Jessica made her point, as she found a way to lighten winter's dreariness.



**3:21 p.m.**

In for the steal, Billy Hasse, senior, battles David Trykall, freshman. "I jumped in to play, even though I wasn't in Ping Pong Club," Billy said. "I wanted to see if I could beat Trykall." Despite Billy's effort, David still took the match.



**2:42 p.m.**

The best part of the day is when we can go home, because we won't be here. School isn't bad but nobody wants to be here for six hours.

Nina Damjanovich,  
sophomore

**2:49 p.m.**

Hand in hand, juniors Jessica DeBoer and Zach Wallar, strut over to their cars after school to grab a bite to eat. "We'd go out to eat before the swim meets, because it was important for

Zach to eat before big meets," Jessica said. After taking their time at dinner, the two had to rush to get back to school so Zach wouldn't be late for the competition.



**3:40 p.m.**

Working her skills, Taylor Marcus, sophomore, works on the hip hop routine at practice.

"Practice was hard because we had three dance routines and our coach pushed us hard to try and win state titles," Taylor said. The practice may have been hard, but it proved worthwhile when they finished 1st at Regionals in Elkhart.

## Break it down

Another stressful week calls for girls to plan another time of fun

### Home sweet home

"Girls night was a way for me to evade my stress from school, work-loads, my parents, my boyfriend or whatever was bothering me," Charlene Campbell, freshman, said. On an almost weekly basis, Charlene spent the night with some of her closest girl friends.

"[We would usually] just go over to my friend Larissa's [Fisher, freshman] house to watch movies and make food and just hang out," Charlene said.

Kelly Wade, senior, defined a girls' night by watching movies, buying food for a bunch of girls, and wearing whatever.

"You could put your hair up in a sloppy bun and wear sweat pants; there was no one to impress," Kelly said.

With Papa John's number programmed into her phone, Julie Janis, senior, hosted a movie and game night nearly every weekend at her house, depending on her schedule and her friends.

"We switched off our phones so that no one just sat there on the phone with their boyfriends. We ordered pizza, got snacks, watched movies, and played Scategories," Julie said. "We danced to whatever was on the radio or in the CD player and just had a good time."

Although not considered a homebody, Megan Mann, senior, spent her Thursday nights staying in with her girl friends hanging out in her den, watching "Project Runway." On other

nights they just hung out.

"We usually went to my house and laid on the floor, and ate snacks, watched movies, studied, and chatted," Megan said.

### On the town

Going to the mall, to the movies, or to a dance club provided another way for the girls to get together and have a good time, according to Lisa Barrios, senior.

"I liked to go dancing at Energy, [a dance club in Griffith]. It usually started off just me and a few girlfriends but then friends invited their friends and it turned into a big group, which was usually more fun," Barrios said.

Contrary to Lisa, Amanda Merlos, junior, liked going to the mall or to a dance club with a small group of girl friends.

"I would rather have had just my girlfriends with me because when there were too many girls it was too much drama," Amanda said.

While the older girls enjoyed the club setting, younger girls enjoyed a more low-key setting.

"It seemed like more freshmen went to the movies," Charlene said. "I rarely saw upperclassmen there; it was usually girls in my grade."

Whether staying home to watch "Project Runway" or "Juno", or going to club Energy, girls were girls and just wanted to have fun.

### get low

At the Homecoming dance Emily Saucido, sophomore, dances to the beat with her girl friends. "I went to the dance with my girl friends because if I went with one date I'd be tied down. It's more fun to go in a group," Emily said. Many students went with a date, but had a group to fall back on, according to Emily.



### caught in conversation

Nails drying Sarah Roque, junior, and Carolyn Andrews, senior, discuss their Homecoming dresses. "We went there to look good and hang out with friends," Sarah said.

### in good fashion

With hopes set on Christian Siriano beating the competition, Taylor Compton, junior, and Megan Mann, senior, meet to watch Project Runway. "We loved the process of design and seeing the finished product and what goes on the runway," Megan said.



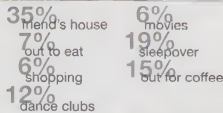




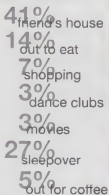
## Out and about

Where do you go with your girl friends in your freetime?

### Freshmen



### Sophomores

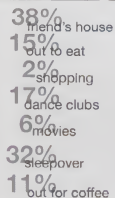


eat it up

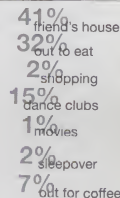
With a full plate Rachel Morrow, sophomore, grabs a bite at her friend's birthday party. "Deana [Sylvester, sophomore] had the girls over for her birthday," Rachel said



### Juniors



### Seniors



215 students survey  
Feb. 28



### full attention

At Stand-Up Comics in Lansing, Kyle Corriglia, junior, watches Adam Bobeck, junior, perform. "We've performed there three or four times, but we go there often to watch other bands perform," Kyle said. Kyle and members of Black and White were invited to play at the venue.



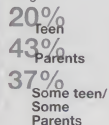
### getting gassy

Although gas prices steadily rose Seth Flahaven, junior, wouldn't let it effect his driving. "My parents pay for my gas; it doesn't bother them when I drive my friends so it doesn't effect me," Seth said.

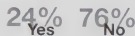
## MIXED FRIENDS' NIGHT OUT

### Gas guzzlers

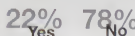
Who pays for the gas?



Has the rising price of gas limited how far you travel?



Has the rising price of gas limited how often you go out?



126 students survey  
Feb. 28

# Strike a chord

Without having to plan, boys find ways to create fun

Seconds away from the Friday 2:45 p.m. bell, the weekend called out along with the Xbox Live headset and sports equipment.

"Just hanging out with the guys was the best," Dan Karr, senior, said. "You're with the people you could associate yourself with. We seemed to come together because of our similar interests."

Interests included playing video games with each other, going to the skate park, playing guitar and engaging in sports.

"Sometimes where I hung out depended on who the friend was," David Kiesling, junior, said. "It also depended on the weather. I went to play baseball in the park during spring and hung out at someone's house during winter."

With variables such as the weather affecting outdoor activities, some guys felt more comfortable playing video games inside.

"[Video games] were always entertaining to play with your friends because it was sort of like a break from reality," Aaron Caldwell, sophomore, said.

With games like *Halo 3*, *Super Smash Bros. Brawl*, and *Call of Duty 4: Modern Warfare* out in stores, guys found different ways to keep busy with their controllers and thumbs.

"On weekends, I'd play *Brawl* non-stop with my friends," Shawn Tuttle, freshman, said. "Because of the Wii's WiFi function, you

could play with more friends and it provided some sort of escapism."

Playing video games with friends not only created fun for guys during the week. Guys tried to find fun together by developing their individual interests together.

"I typically just went to the skate park and skated, but also I made movies with my friends," Mike Gauthier, freshman, said. "Making movies was important to me because it was something I want to possibly do when I get older."

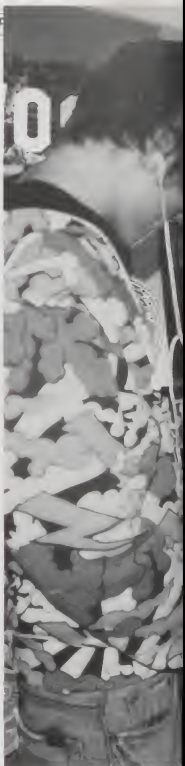
Some guys did not plan out events like girls, but would just let whatever happen, happen. A set schedule never determined when they could hang out.

"I never planned anything with friends," David said. "Things fell into place. We never made it a deal on where we would go. We'd just go."

Boys not only lacked planning for spur of the moment activities, but also created fun by going to LAN parties and playing in bands.

"The best part of being with my friends was just all the antics we got into because everything just seemed better when you're with your friends," Dan said.

Whether guys wanted to strum a few chords on their guitars or play against each other in a game of *Brawl*, guys found a way to have fun despite the season.



## MIXED FRIENDS' NIGHT OUT



wait it out

Before paying for their check, Ted Hanak and Bernadette Bowers, seniors, talk at Little Tokyo. Going out to eat with friends proved a popular option.

### Where do you go with a mixed group of friends?

	out to eat	friend's house	movies	bowling	sporting events	dance club
Freshmen	1%	45%	37%	5%	4%	8%
Sophomores	13%	55%	21%	5%	6%	0%
Juniors	10%	62%	9%	6%	3%	10%
Seniors	24%	57%	8%	4%	3%	4%

370 students survey  
Feb. 28



## stringing along

With iPod ear-piece, Mike Gauthier, freshman, shoots Christian Moffit, junior, for their video "The VDay Disaster." "We made movies to express our views and opinions," Christian said. Along with favorite activities, Gabe Harangody, senior, practices on his bass. "I'm in a band with my friends," Gabe said. "I was able to know my friends better, like Nick Yi and Ted Hanak." Music not only pulled Gabe's friends together, but also Tony Bosommett's friends in Black & White. "We started the band three years ago just because it was something to do," Tony said. "We're like brothers, and it's fun to play with them."



## crank it

With music blasting, Viraj Mania, senior, and Liz Wadas and Shaloo Kumar, freshmen, dance along at a weekend HUM Party. HUM hoped to enhance Indian culture and awareness for high school students.



## give a hoot

With cheers filling the stands, Jeff Spyrrka and Blake Platt, seniors, support the foot ball team during the game against Highland. "It was always fun to go to games to support your friends," Blake said. "We can be together and have a good time."

## rock 'n' roll

For 30 minutes to an hour, freshmen Brandon Zepetti and Gilbert Vasquez play their favorite game, Guitar Hero. "It's just really fun and entertaining, and I'm really addicted to it," Brandon said.

**puppy love**

While playing with her puppy, Celeste Avina, junior, enjoys time with her younger sister, Jessica. "It made my sisters happy when I spent time with them," Celeste said. Celeste spent time with her sisters everyday playing with their dog or talking.



**mirror mirror**

In world literature class, seniors Anisha and Suchita Kastogi sit near each other in one of the six classes they had together. "It was helpful [to have Suchita in class with me because] we compared our homework and helped each other," Anisha said.



**pile in**

After school, Emily Koufos, freshman, gets into the car with her cousins Mallory McShane, senior, and Kara McShane, sophomore. "We usually blasted music and had a good time in the car," Emily said. Emily's cousins would take her home about once a week when her sister Sophie Koufos, junior, could not.





## Family ties

Students choose to spend quality time with family members

Hanging out with friends could be enjoyable, but many students chose to spend quality time with their family.

"[Family] is a backup system for everything you need," Mimi Grozdanich, senior, said. "They're there to help you out."

Mimi regularly spent time with her sister Jelena, sophomore.

"It made me sad because I knew that [Mimi] would be leaving for college," Jelena said. "I wouldn't get to follow her around like when I was little."

Siblings felt sad when they realized that they had little time left before their older sibling went off to college. This thought made Mimi and Jelena cherish the time they had left.

"We would go downtown," Mimi said. "We loved everything on the Magnificent Mile."

Mimi and Jelena hung out, went for Starbucks runs, or watched movies together. They watched *Accepted* about 20 times, according to Jelena.

Kindon Crowder, junior, and his older brother James, 19, also enjoyed watching their favorite movie, *Like Mike*, together. Kindon and James spent time at the mall and played basketball together during their free time.

"We got along because [James] was around my age," Kindon said.

### sister sister

Pencil in hand, Stacey Wierman, sophomore, helps her sister Emily, with math homework. "[Emily] didn't understand a couple of problems, so I helped her," Stacey said. Stacey and Emily regularly spent time together after school watching TV or walking their dog, Buddy.

### big brother

With basketball in hand, GW Childs, sophomore, plays ball with his 11-year-old brother. "I liked spending time with my brother because we played the same sports and helped each other out with them," GW said.

Mimi and Jelena agreed that since they were also close in age they got along better.

"No matter what, [Jelena] is going to be a part of my life," Mimi said.

Although many students felt close with siblings, other students felt close with parents.

"If I had issues or problems, I went to my mom for advice," Jenna Pagane, freshman, said.

Alex Vlahu, sophomore, also bonded with his father and went to him for advice.

"My dad was really easy to talk to about things," Alex said. "We always had a fun time joking around."

Alex spent time with his dad on the weekends. They worked on cars and fished. Jenna also enjoyed spending time with her mom on weekends.

"I had a lot of fun when I was with her," Jenna said. "She took me to practices (for soccer and basketball) and we went shopping at the mall."

Alex and Jenna did not limit themselves to spending time with their parents; they also tried to spend time with their entire family by eating dinner with them every night.

"We always ate dinner together," Alex said. "It was really nice because we always had something new to talk about like school and politics."

Jenna found it essential for families to discuss what happened during the day.

Whether spending time with a sibling or a parent, students found quality time for their family.

### bright and shining

On the seventh day of Hanukkah, Jacob Tepperman, junior, lights the menorah with his family. "I enjoy [Hanukkah] because I could spend time with my family, as well as my extended family, whom I didn't get to see that often," Jacob said. Jacob believed that holidays were always more enjoyable when spent with family.



**side by side**

While walking to her car, Emily Whiting and boyfriend Ryan Watrobka, juniors, discuss their plans for after school. "[We] hung out at his house usually, or went out to eat," Emily said. They liked to go to Red Robin, Emily said.



**dance to their own tune**

Drinks in hand, seniors Lazarick Whitlock and Turnabout date Ashley Smith, from TF South, take a break from dancing to engage in conversation at the Candyland-themed Turnabout dance. "She is one of my best friends," Lazarick said. "The best part was dancing a lot together, and when we did the Thriller dance." At her first formal dance, Cesilee James, freshman, turns her ticket in at the front table. "I had a really fun time," Cesilee said. "I enjoyed dancing and getting to wear a formal dress." Turnabout served as a way for couples to get dressed up and have a good time.



**tempura for two**

At Little Tokyo, Caleb Kurowski and Katherine Wadas, seniors, join Molly White, senior, and enjoy a meal together. Going out to restaurants proved as a common option for groups of friends and couples. "I love spending time with [Katherine]," Caleb said. "We could do whatever together and have fun just by being together."



# Walk away together

Students seek connections through that special someone

Moving beyond a group of friends, many students looked for that special guy or girls who matched their needs and interests.

"[People date in high school] so they can know what others are like," Mrs. Marilyn Rizzo, family consumer education teacher, said. "They find out what qualities they like and dislike so when it comes time to make a decision they know what to look for in a partner."

Amanda Puryear, senior, believed she found a life partner in Danny Hmurovic, '06. They planned an engagement after graduation and a wedding after college.

"He's my soulmate; we've been together for three years," Amanda said. "I know we're young, but I'm very happy to have found love."

Maddie Oswald, junior, has dated Kevin Hughes, junior, on and off since middle school. They spent time together and were proud to be independent of each other when necessary.

"Communication is a big thing for us," Maddie said. "We can talk about anything, even the bad stuff. It's important to be able to talk if you're going to spend a lot of time together."

Maddie went to Kevin's house most mornings before and also after school to hang out.

Like Maddie and Kevin, Rachel Colias, sophomore, and Allen Bradaric, senior, spent most of their time together. After school they would go to each other's house and hangout, according to Rachel.

"He [Allen] means a lot," Rachel said. "We

spent a lot of time together. We didn't have to do anything special though."

Rachel and Allen played video games and ordered pizza when they had time together, similar to many students who chose to stay in.

Catherine Vlahos, freshman, played Pokemon with boyfriend Glen Pavlov, freshman. They went to each other's houses, hung out with friends, or went out to eat, like most couples.

"Ed [Gier, senior] and I went out to eat, sometimes at Steak and Shake or where ever, or hung out with Nicole [Pakan, senior] and Ted [Hanak, senior]," Breanne Lawler, senior, said. "Nikki is my best friend and Ted is Ed's best friend so it worked out."

Even when students felt comfortable with someone, they still had to look good for their date to keep the spark going, according to Amanda.

Bernadette Bowen, senior, spent approximately 45 minutes to an hour primping before going out with her boyfriend, Brandon Nallenweg, senior, from Highland.

"We met through a friend at the movies the night 'Cloverfield' came out," Bernadette said. "I didn't always spend too long getting ready for him, but it was usually 45 minutes to an hour. Sometimes I wore sweat pants when we hung out, but I liked to look nice for him."

Dating helped students break away from stress created by friends, family or school. Teens needed a connection to someone special and looked for it in relationships.

## game that two can play

Concentrated on filling their Pokedex, juniors Maddie Oswald and boyfriend Kevin Hughes play Pokemon at Maddie's house. "We loved Pokemon," Maddie said. "It was something we could do together, and it was fun to raise Pokemon and battle each other."

## fine dining

As Paul Skoglund and Anjelica O'Brien, juniors, make their food selection at the Commander restaurant, Paul jokes with Anjelica. "He always had a joke to tell me," Anjelica said. "We mostly went to Commander because it had some of our favorite food and it wasn't expensive." Paul and Anjelica knew all of the waitresses by name.



# beyond the books

*Whether researching projects or cramming for unit tests, pressure builds while needed relief waits around the corner*

**Books piled high**, back packs crammed, and long tedious assignments posted on the board, it's no wonder students felt the pressure of school and what came with it full force.

"Teachers who gave a lot of homework, projects, essays, and papers [stressed me out] because it took a lot of time and effort," Jon Newcomb, freshman, said.

As teachers handed out homework assignments the groans rose. The workload, on top of the expectation, made grades critical, but some students felt pressure from other areas other than just grades.

"Choosing, applying and waiting for colleges' responses made me nervous, so I kept busy by doing chores or reading magazines," Claudia Portillo, senior, said.

Seniors scrambled to make sure everything got mailed or emailed to their college of choice and anxiously waited around for feedback. Other seniors focused on situating themselves for the real world by getting a jump-start in their career choice like volunteering at the hospital.

Freshmen and transfer students tossed into a pool of new people faced mixed feelings of excitement and nervousness as they walked the halls for the first time.

"The first day of school [stressed me out]," Ashley Mangahas, freshman, said. "I had to make new friends and meeting new people was not always easy."

Most students, hit with the pressure of school in one way or another, discovered and developed ways to crack the pressure.

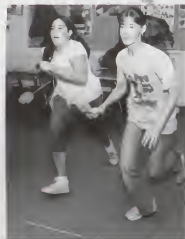
"Acting in the Auditorium, playing music with my band (Goodbye to Friday) and sports when they're in season [helped take my mind off school]," Hunter Muckel, sophomore, said.

Little things in school, such as a class clown or a funny teacher, helped relieve some nerves during the day. The cafeteria remained a sanctuary for many students who desperately needed a break to gain some energy and talk things out with friends. During passing periods, meeting up with friends resolved many of the previous class issues.

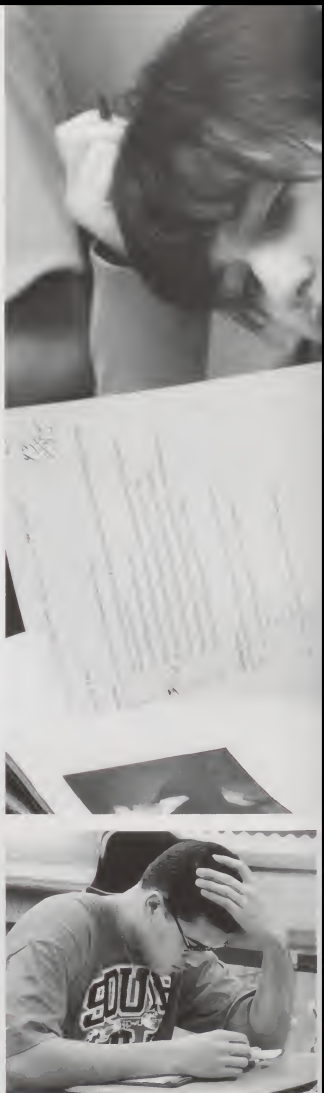
"Hanging out with friends and playing the guitar made [the stress] go away," Manuel Lopez, junior, said.

Escapes from studying and work continued after school as students hopped in cars and turned on their favorite music as they prepared themselves for practice or workouts, and raced home to catch their favorite TV show.

**cram time** While in Mr. Chris Tomci's Algebra class Keiffer Morgan, sophomore, fits in some cramming time before his German test next hour. "When I was prepared [for the test] I didn't worry, but I always crammed a little if there was time," Keiffer said. "It was a break because I got extra time to study for my test."



**hit and run** In Miss Meghan Bialas' Spanish class, freshmen Molly Imrich and Emilie Riggs play fly swatter. "Fly swatter was competitive and challenging because you had to find the words, but it was a fun game," Molly said. Molly liked playing games in Spanish during 1st period because games like fly swatter broke up the morning.





**second glance** After receiving her graded U.S. History test, Marilyn Hansen, junior, looks it over correcting her mistakes. "It got me ready for whatever would be on the next test and helped me with finals because I understood what I got wrong," Marilyn said.



**outside the box** In Mr. Kelly Hausman's chemistry class, Divya Chauhan works on the Black Box lab. "Labs help because a lot of science deals with things you can't see and labs help you understand it personally," Divya said.

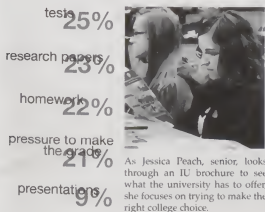
**folk plogger** Up in the front rows Gilroy Vasquez and Emily Kitchell present their folk tale for World Literature. "Presenting gave me a little bit [of stress] because you never knew what they'd think of it and if they'd get your message," Gilroy said.



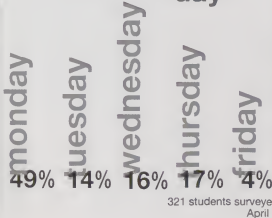
**made up** In Tech Theatre class, Justin Newman, senior, practices his make up skills on Brittani Vasquez, senior. "It was a stress reliever because it was the end of the day and it wasn't a too serious class," Justin said.



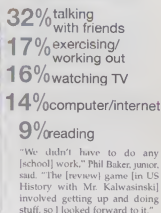
## stress makers



## most stressful day



## stress breakers



# make your mark

*Whether playing review games or participating in creative projects, students seek assignments that switch up day-to-day routine*

## Activities in class

had been redefined. No longer did students believe that going to class would bore them day in and day out. From games to picture notes, teachers tried new techniques in hopes that students would retain information better.

"Games gave [students] a different way to learn," Miss Meghan Bialas, Spanish teacher, said. "It was a good way to review as opposed to book work and worksheets."

Miss Bialas' students' favorite game, fly swatter, remained as an effective way for students to learn their foreign language vocabulary words. In other classes, students played games such as Jeopardy and Bingo in order to review for upcoming quizzes and tests.

"Games were a fun way to review things," Ines Tzolov, sophomore, said. "People liked them better because it didn't feel like they were studying."

While some students enjoyed playing games, others preferred hands-on activities, such as the dissection of the fetal pig and physics teacher Mr. Bruce Curme's in-class picture notes.

"Picture notes allowed you to see another side of information," Britney Breger, junior, said. "You could visualize information rather than reading it. Picture notes gave you a better understanding."

Other students preferred certain projects as opposed to hands-on activities and games.

"I liked the social norm project in psychology," Jim Hunt, senior, said. "Each person thought of their own idea that went against society. I went to Target dressed up in Under Armor and tight. Everyone looked at me."

Despite all of the stares, Jim learned something more from the project.

"The project taught me that people were biased toward how people acted and judged physical appearance."

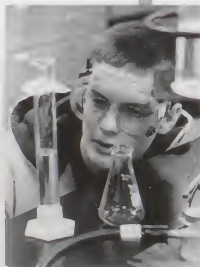
Many students looked forward to creative assignments like the social norm project, while other students found that reports, such as the college research paper, did not threaten them either.

"I liked the college research paper," Martin Ortiz, junior, said. "It gave me a chance to think about what I'm doing after high school."

Whether a creative activity, a helpful re-

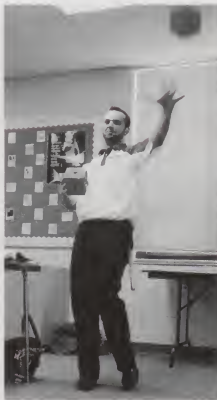
search paper or an energetic game, students agreed that fun classroom activities helped them remember material and stay focused throughout the day.

**luck of the dice** In math class, Mr. Chris Tomcisi throws foam dice in the air to determine whether to collect the homework. "If you forgot to do your homework, then you wouldn't always have to turn it in," Stephanie Dwaars, sophomore, said. If students were in an even class period and the dice landed on an even number then they had to turn in their homework.



### measure up

With goggles secured, Matt McNicholas, sophomore, measures the water's volume at eye level. "I liked labs because cool stuff happened all the time," Matt said. "My favorite was when we burned magnesium in oxygen. It made an intense light."



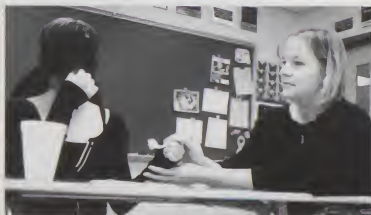


**mark it up** In Mr. Chris Rossano's multiculturalism class, seniors Kristina Keith, Amanda Puryear and Punam Tiwana prepare for the Haka, a traditional New Zealand dance. "I enjoyed watching other people's interpretations of the Haka," Kristina said.



**take it in** Exchange student Manu Peralta Vicenta, junior, talks about his home in Spain. "It was cool to hear him because he was from a different country," Neil Kondamuri, sophomore, said. "It was nice to see what he thought about our country."

**in a sense** With blindfolded and nose plugged, Alex Knikiakia, junior, participates in the taste testing experiment for AP Psychology. "It was interesting to find out how the senses worked with food," Alex said. The students tasted carrots, onions, cookies and other foods to see if they could recognize the difference without their sense of smell.



**in a twist** While in physics, Garrett Broadnax, junior, demonstrates waves with a Slinky. "Usually when you did labs it was controlled, like you were going to pour this and mix this," Garrett said. "This lab was something more interactive."

**keep it steady** Only allowed to use popsicle sticks and glue, Amy Lucas, sophomore, works on her earthquake proof building for Miss Shonna Siegers' Earth Space class. "We got out of the class, worked and did something different," Amy said.

## What **class** highlighted your day?

"I liked Mr. Modesto's composition class. Everyday he wanted us to leave the classroom having fun and he made sure we laughed at least once."

Alex Hora,  
senior

"Construction Process A. It was a good class to learn a lot about architecture."

Chris Mitchell  
sophomore

"Automotive technology because all the people in that class were so funny, and it was something I would like to do for a living."

Anthony Ayersman,  
junior

"Algebra with Mr. Sokol. He was a really cool teacher and knew how to communicate with his students."

Cassie Pakan,  
freshman

## crack down

As part of a study on lunar landing, Miss Shonna Siegers' Earth Space class built lunar modules to protect eggs in a crash landing. With anticipation sophomores Ryan Radbel and Dustin Pendrick wait to see their egg's fate, while juniors Ian Boswell and Nick Bozich give each other a high five for their survived egg. "This project showed us how to make something hold an egg so it would compare to a soft moon landing moon," Ian said. Mr. Bruce Curme's and Mr. Larry Hautzinger's physics students made egg contraptions as a part of their study on free fall. Ray Lopez, junior, carefully lets go of his egg from the bleachers, while Billy Hasse, senior, checks for cracks after the big drop.



**write out loud** With chalk in hand, Tanner Ollo, junior, hurries to write the correct word while playing Spanish board races. "[Playing games] was an alternative to doing a worksheet," Tanner said. "Playing games made you learn the words and it prepared you for upcoming tests."

**work it** Dressed in an array of clothing, Shalee Kumar, freshman, participates in the Spanish fashion show. "There was a lot more participation when we did something fun like the fashion show and the Spanish workout video," Shalee said.



## What's the **most** effective way to learn?

"I tended to learn more from movies because I saw how everything was done."

Mark Cady,  
junior

"[I learned by] having someone explain [the material] and practicing it a bunch of times."

Cecilee James,  
freshman

"It was more helpful for us to learn if we were actually doing something instead of just listening."

Shirin Kamalipour,  
sophomore





**culture shock** In the IGL, the IU Honors students talk about their experiences in a foreign country. "I have always been interested in other languages," Nicoletta Coduto, senior, said. "Going and experiencing [another country's] culture made you a more well-rounded person." Nicoletta traveled overseas and experienced the culture of Oviedo, a city in northern Spain.

## make your mark



### What was your favorite class project?

"The social norm project. I took a teddy bear and pretended like it was a child. I talked to it and said, 'good job.' People looked at me."

Jordana Boton,  
senior

"The health project. We had to make a menu for what we ate during the day and saw how many calories it was."

Matt McNicholas,  
sophomore

"Making the masks in psychology. I got to show my personality and you got to see who people actually were instead of what you thought of them at school."

Courtney Huckabee,  
senior

"In German class we got a sheet with a person drawn on it. We got to dress them and color them. On the back, we described what kind of clothes were on them and said where he or she was going. We basically gave them a story."

Whitney Dumas,  
freshman



**come full circle** Opposed to everyday note-taking, Kristina Carlson, senior, participates in a math lab. "We used [Cheerios] to find the circumference of the circle," Kristina said.

**shake it up** In theater arts, Melissa Lee, sophomore, and Carolyn Andrews, senior, self-direct a performance. "It was something to take pride in," Carolyn said.

"I learned by writing. When I wrote something down I remembered it better. I always used it as a reference for later."

Aava Khatiwada,  
junior

"Notes because I could review it over and over again. The notes were from the teacher so you knew what to expect on a test."

Thomas Ramirez,  
freshman

"I liked learning with friends because you got various ideas and different opinions on the topic you were studying."

Abhinav Ravi,  
junior

MAKES LEARNING FUN ■ WHAT MAKES LEARNING FUN ■ WHAT MAKES LEARNING FUN

**blow your mind** Clarinet in hand, Andrew Koultsourides, freshman, makes music with the band. "We practiced so much to improve our performance," Andrew said. Practices proved imperative to the band's performance.



**erased from memory** At a table during Contact Time, Rachel Illuska, sophomore, erases the answer to the day's homework. Students used Contact Time to study for tests, socialize, do homework and eat breakfast. Doing homework together helped students finish the problems they didn't understand.

**heads up** Intently listening Sophie Koufos, junior, sits through a lecture about the IU Honors program in the LGL. The informational lecture brought something new to the day, but many students found it unentertaining.



**at hand** Sitting through lectures and presentations made most students' eyes droop from boredom. As senior Ashley Lair focuses to stay awake in class, senior Cristal del Real presents her court case in government. Lectures and papers made some days seem to drag on, according to Ashley. Trying to keep up with his note taking, Matt Stewart, junior, struggles to pay attention in English. Mr. Glen Percifield assigned papers to his English 11 students every day. "We had to write one paper every day," Matt said. "That made that class long." As Brittani Vasquez, senior, tries to pay attention to a college representative explaining the benefits of his university, Sean Georgas and Martin Ortiz, juniors, focus on staying interested during vocab Jeopardy in their AP Psychology class.



# time after time

**Tired of the routine,** students saw the necessary evils of school stretched through classes. Although most students understood the importance of what they learned, school proved not always all fun and games.

Highlights in learning seemed to fall in the shadows of the boring or under-stimulating parts of the day. Many students despised time spent with dreary lectures, drag-on notes or even classes that proved not challenging enough.

The junior research papers loaded students with the responsibility of organization. Teachers expected students to write note cards for their research, make multiple drafts, and research using Internet and book references. Note cards had been designed to organize the various pages of research in a way that students would find it easier to write their paper and bibliography.

"[The research paper] was the basis for junior year," Karina Chavez, junior, said. "But it was the worst part of junior year because you had so much to do."

Juniors found themselves swamped with Mr. Bruce Curme's physics packets, preparing for the SAT, and composing a research paper. Meanwhile, seniors who made it through the research paper focused on required classes that would make or break their graduation.

Exhausted from the homework he stayed up late to finish, John Carlson, senior, found it hard to pay attention in his first hour government class. The 10-page, long note-taking assignments proved enough for John to lose interest in the required class.

"I knew it was a required class but the long note taking was enough to make me want to put my head down and go to sleep," John said. "It was hard to pay attention and take those long notes."

Cynical of many parts of the government, John pushed for a passing grade in one of his least favorite subjects.

Upperclassmen needed some push and stimulation to get themselves through the day while freshmen and sophomores looked for a break from the routine work.

Earth Space Science students learned geology and astronomy through the countless packets and pages of book work assigned for homework.

"I liked [Earth Space]," Shane Miraglia, sophomore, said, "but, it put me to sleep sometimes because of the work we did."

*While not always fun, students struggle to find value in papers, packets and note-taking*

*continued on page 33*



**goggle eyed** Arms propped up on the ledge, Michelle Chung, freshman, watches Ms. Paula Malinski, physical education teacher, demonstrate a kick for swimming. "[I didn't like] how we had wet hair and had to get ready really fast," Michelle said. Students swam during gym as a requirement despite drawbacks.

#### stand and present

With his hands full with the *70 Kill: A Mockingbird* project, Steven Losinicki, freshman, presents a visual explanation of Atticus Finch to the class. Mr. Jim McNabney wanted the students to do creative visual projects to gain a better understanding of the characters.



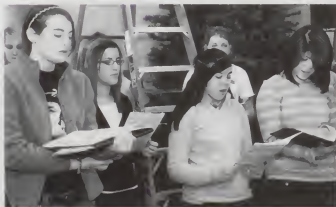
#### what made learning **least** fun?

"The fact that it's the same schedule every day. Routines were overrated. That's what made college so intriguing, a different schedule every day."

Jenny Eskander,  
senior

"Homework. Learning should be done in school. There are so many other ways to spend that free time."

Brandon Bragg,  
sophomore



**sing along** In practice for an upcoming holiday choir concert, sophomores Camille Burger, Jenny Peters, and Ellie Boston, and junior Taylor Compton sing at rehearsal. "We had to do sight singing as a warm up everyday and sometimes it was kind of tricky," Taylor said. Practicing together intensified as performances drew close.







## time after time

continued from page 31

Shane and many other students knew that class could not be fun all of the time, and that sometimes teachers didn't have a fun way for students to learn the material. Teachers struggled to keep the freshmen behaving and interested as young students transformed from helpless eighth graders to independent students. They took relentless biology notes in class, and went home with seemingly never ending Spanish packets for homework.

"Biology was one of my favorite subjects because of 'Frankie' [Mr. David Franklin, science teacher]," Katie Taylor, freshman, said. "We had to take way too many notes, though."

The daily notes in many of the classes proved to be a least favorite, but students understood the importance of it. Note taking prepared students for upcoming tests and quizzes. Mr. Bill Smitka, social studies teacher, allowed the students to use the notes on the quiz.

Without the push, or with the homework piled on, students found many aspects of their school day least fun. Little breaks proved relief that overshadowed the least fun aspects of the class routine.

*"The least fun part of school was the research paper but it'll help when I go to college. I'll have to write papers but I'll know what to do and what's expected."*

*Christina Boswell,  
junior*



**seeing stars** With steady hands and scrunched faces, Miss Sarah Vicari's zoology class dissects star fish. Being hesitant to dissect at first, junior Jessica DeYoung watches her lab partner make the first incision, as Felipe Hernandez, senior, cuts with ease. Anna Pycinska, senior, squirms as her partner holds an arm, while juniors Hannah Anderson and Kristen Pulley prepare to cut the arms of the starfish. "[It was] difficult to cut the starfish because the arms were all mangled together," Anna said.

## projecting forward

With so many projects assigned for classes, students took the chance to be creative with their work. With family tree projects sprawled out on the desks, Courtney Drabac, junior, critiques in Mr. Steve Lopez's U.S. History class. "We saw what other students did and critiqued them," Courtney said. Some projects became a large part of students' grades such as the Box Project for Mr. Morgan Nolan's social studies teacher. While displaying her project, Sarah Martinez, freshman, presents 50 facts about modern world history to make the grade. With her face hidden, Sandra Campos, junior, wears her personality mask for psychology. More artistic projects like psychology teacher Mr. Matt Kalwinski's personality masks allowed students to display their personality creatively.



**good eats** With steam rising, Michelle Monagan and Kelly Nadratowski, sophomores, and Krista Zagat, junior, cook spaghetti for Foods I. "I really enjoyed cooking in class rather than just sitting down at a desk," Kelly said. "It was fun to just spend an hour of class cooking rather than regular work."



## weighing skills

Some teachers chose to test students' skills more creatively than with just the written test. While waiting in line for lunch with senior Brandon Ruiz, Jenna Tritsch, senior, holds onto her empathy belt for Child Development class. "It hurt to wear it," Jenna said. "You had to hold it up and push it against yourself, and it was difficult to walk. I don't know how I'll do that when I decide to have children." While watching his partner, Mark Dye, junior, waits to test his strength in weight lifting. "Lifting weights helped keep up my confidence," Mark said. "I liked those tests more because it required a lot of skill and it wasn't boring." Concentrating on his work, Ted Hack, senior, glazes his creation for ceramics. Carefully observing, Robyn Hennig, sophomore, drops chemicals into the test tube as her lab partner, Katherine Bobek, sophomore, watches. "Labs made chemistry less boring," Robyn said. "They were sometimes fun and more entertaining than taking notes."



# put to the test

**Staring at a scantron** test sheet with blue outlined bubbles in a uniform order, Brittany Maul, sophomore, blinked several times. She inhaled as she picked up her pencil and began to work.

"Boring tests were slow and seemed to take longer than they actually did," Brittany said.

Despite the occasional boring test, teachers used creative ways to break up the monotony such as Mr. Bill Woods', band director, playing tests for band.

"Playing tests were harder than they appeared," Hannah Wagner, freshman, said. "Everyone was listening to you as you played, so there was a lot more pressure. [The tests] were harder to prepare for too because there was no book or notes to study with. You just had to practice the piece you were playing."

Band students played a selected piece for a test grade. Not only band students endured these types of tests, but other students did as well.

Photography students practiced with film cameras in order to create their nine-photo final exam project. The project had to tell a story. Students checked a camera out of school and shot photos according to their story.

"We used a 35 mm camera from Mrs. [Nancy] Hastings and we took the photos that went with our story," Sam Flynn, sophomore, said. "We had to load film into the camera and unload it, develop our own film, and then make proofsheets when they were done. After all of that, we would then make prints using an enlarger for our project."

The creativity did not stop there. Computer applications classes created candy wrappers for their final semester test and industrial technology classes built wooden houses for their final projects.

"Creative projects really helped me get through some classes," Eric Robertson, senior, said. "They made things fun and helped relieve some stress from regular assignments."

Innovative projects aided students visually and kept them entertained, such as the Spanish 2 work out videos. Students wrote scripts, directed and filmed the videos during second semester.

"The [Spanish workout videos] were fun because you could work with your friends on it," Jon Newcomb, freshman, said. "You got to be more creative than studying and doing all the boring stuff."

In addition to projects, presentations broke up day-to-day translation assignments in Spanish classes.

"We had to create a Spanish restaurant scene to present in front of the class," Karina Chavez, junior, said. "We got into groups and each person had a certain role. It was fun learning with the people in my group and understanding the language in a different way."

**in focus** While aligning her film in the carrier, Breck Scarnavack, junior, prepares to print for photography. Knowing her grade relied on the quality of the prints, Breck carefully worked to make sure the prints showed good contrast.

As Brittany finished darkening the last blue bubble, she put down her pencil and quietly read, hoping that a project would come her way.

*Alternative testing and projects help students break out of the box, creating new ways to learn*



**reveal yourself** Holding the handle of her mask, Megan Mann, senior, presents her personality mask for Mr. Matt Kalwasinski's psychology class. "The masks gave you more of an insight to who everyone was," Megan said. "They could get a better idea of who you were, especially if you didn't speak to everyone." Mr. Kalwasinski frequently switched up projects to keep the class interested in learning.

**a dose of talent** Wrapped up working on his sketch for art class, Ted Hack, senior, devotes all his effort. "Art was a good way to express myself and relax if I had stressful week," Ted said. Ted planned on majoring in art for the next fall.



**common sketch** sitting in the Commons, Laura Aguilar, sophomore, takes some time for herself to sketch. "It was a hobby that I enjoyed doing whenever I had time," Laura said. Students found ways of getting through the day by making time for their own interests.

Top **7** necessary ingredients to get through the day

34% pens/pencils  
15% cell phone  
13% food  
11% back pack  
10% iPod/ music  
9% calculator  
8% gum

173 students surveyed  
April 7



**side note** Benched in the Commons during lunch, Kyle Ritz, sophomore, tries to catch up on homework as sophomores Simon Webb and Paul Moran work on breaking his stride. "My friends were fun and lightened things up when it was a tough situation like cramming," Kyle said.

**in the works** in shop class Ryan Stuffer, sophomore, works on his bench. "I enjoyed building," Ryan said. "It was a hobby and I had talent for it." Industrial technology classes allowed students to express their skills in different areas.



What helped get you **through** the day?

"I thought about my volleyball practice and how much fun it would be after I got through the school day."

Kayla Macadillo, freshman

"My lyrics got me through my day, the crazy antics of my friends, and of course remembering the weekend was never far away."

David Blumberg, sophomore

"Goldfish got me through the day. I brought a bag to school and ate them whenever I could. They helped me stay awake."

Kassia Groszewski, senior

**stakes high** While in 1st period band, Alison Bergmann, junior, and Katie Palmer, sophomore, stack up everything they needed for school. "It was just for fun. I had a lot of stuff with me for school that day," Alison said. "Katie wanted to see how high we could get the stack." Students constantly found themselves stacked with the necessities for school.





# secret ingredients

**Trying to survive** the 180-day school year took more than energy, a positive attitude and smarts... it took those special ingredients from lucky charms on test days, to needed Kleenex for sniffing noses during the long, drawn out cold weather. The little things that students never thought twice about helped them get through the day. Students found their own secret ingredient for surviving school.

**table talk** Planning in the Publications room, the *Crier* Editorial Board toss ideas around on what to cover for the next deadline. "We had loads of deadlines and they kept us on track, which our grade depended on," Gail Oesterle, sophomore, said. After considering every idea, the board decided on the best ones.



## Lucky charms

"I liked to make up songs or think of key words that would help me remember main ideas for the test."

Kyela Specht,  
freshman

**Calculated** To make the best of his time, Patrick Raycroft, sophomore, works on his chemistry notebook in class. "I don't have as much homework when I get home, when we have time in class to work, and I get more sleep," Patrick said. When students found the best methods for managing their time they had more spare time.

"I wrote the letters JMJ on the top of my paper. It stands for Jesus, Mary and Joseph. I wrote it because it made me feel like they were watching over me."

Angela Gonzalez,  
freshman

"My St. Joe pen because that is where I'm going to play college football."

Mitch LaRock,  
senior

"A necklace my friend brought me from Bolivia. It's made of seeds that are supposed to be good luck. I wore it when I took Spanish tests."

Mary Benman,  
sophomore

"My dog, Harley, died last year and I always had his tags on me."

Eric DeBarge,  
junior





**grounded for lit** Located in the grass for Mrs. Tammy Dougherty's world literature class, Katie Kikolas, Tabitha Strong, Eleanor Kennedy, Annie Koulianos, Amina Benman, and Kim Long, seniors, read from *Bronxville*. "It was nice to get fresh air," Katie said. "Sometimes fresh air helps you relieve stress or think more easily." Many teachers planned outdoor lessons on nice days.

**stand tall** Feet planted on a chair, Brandon Anderson, junior, looks down to the camera as Amanda Rogers, sophomore, takes his picture for a photography project. The frequent shoots helped students get hands-on experience with the equipment.



**knee high** Knelt down, juniors Leslie Poulos and Danica Rodriguez prepare their physics car for the race. "I was feeling pretty confident, but our car didn't go as far as we had hoped," Leslie said. "We still managed to get an A on it though." Even though the car stopped short of their expectations, the girls still walked off with the perfect grade.



**brush it on** Arm stretched out over the paper, Marci Manuel and Jon Merritt, seniors, paint banners for Studio Art. "I loved painting and it was fun to paint in the hallways," Marci said. "It gave us more space." The space allowed the Studio Art students to spread out.

**clown down** Sprawled out on the floor of his English class, Dan Paulson, Alex Powell, Marko Gvero, Dan Bazan and Khashayar Farhadi, sophomores, write a story. "We came up with the idea as a group then Dan [Paulson, sophomore] read it off again so we could write it nicer," Alex said.



# talk in circles

**A sigh of relief** filled the air from Nick Anello, senior, in Mr. Matt Kalwasinski's psychology class, Nick knew what to expect when Mr. Kalwasinski called for the students to arrange the desks into a circle for a class discussion.

Psychology students participated in group discussions, and paired off into groups for the social norm projects. The group discussion, led by Mr. Kalwasinski, started when he pulled students names, written on popsicle sticks, from a cup. The popsicle sticks created a way to draw the students' names randomly. Mr. Kalwasinski asked questions pertaining to the chapter and expected students to give an answer. For example, he asked one student the positives of being blind, another student the negatives of being blind, and asked a different student a positive or negative of having acute vision.

"It was funny to hear other students, or even Mr. K's answers to questions like that," Adam Bobeck, junior, said. "Some people would give serious answers and others would just have fun with the questions, including Mr. K."

Similar to the group discussion in psychology, freshmen arranged their desks into groups to work on stories together in Mr. Kevin Clyne's English class. Mrs. Nancy Hastings' journalism students worked together to understand news judgment in journalism and Miss Sarah Vicari's zoology students paired into groups to dissect organisms in the lab.

Sarah Posey, junior, enjoyed the labs in Mrs. Janel Tobias' anatomy class. "[Doing lab work in groups] helped for learning and understanding," Sarah said. "It made it easier when we'd work in groups."

Group work helped students understand the text and provided a visual aide for memory purposes, while also allowing the class to explain and discuss various topics, according to Sarah.

Mr. David Franklin's biology students participated in class discussions frequently. At the end of the semester, the biology students played 'Bio Bingo,' a trivia game where Mr. Franklin asked an array of questions and the groups had to answer them for extra points. Freshmen appreciated the break in the routine because it offered them a chance to get work done together without pressure, according to Drew Mendez, freshman.

At the end of the class, students put the desks back into rows and went onto their next class often filled with notes, busy work, and lectures. Group projects and discussions brought the day to a close faster than going through lectures, according to Alicia Bookwood, sophomore. The group work made the students feel more at ease and brought some variety into their monotonous day.

"You got to socialize with people [during group work], and everyone knew that time flies when you're having fun," Jennifer Romano, senior, said.

**group effort** Concentration set on their lab assignment Tessa McGuan, Sarah Posey, and Jessica Gonsalves, juniors, work together to complete their work. "[Doing lab work in groups] helped for learning and understanding the material," Sarah said. Mrs. Janel Tobias' anatomy class frequently went to the lab to better understand the body.

*Whether dissecting animals in zoology, filming videos for world literature or making projects for a foreign language, students find group work breaks the routine*



**art of censorship** At the front of the class, Bridget McCullough and Shawn Tuttle explain what they would censor if they had the power. "We got to act like a dictator over our own world and decide what was permitted and what was not," Shawn said. "We got to clash ideas and balanced each other out." The censorship project helped the students understand why the protection of the press is fundamental in government.



## How did technology help you learn?

**"**I used the Internet as a source to review for tests. Sometimes I'd use SparkNotes or CliffNotes to review what I'd read for English, or I did online practice tests to study."

Niyati Shah,  
sophomore

**"**[Technology] made it easier and faster to find answers or any sort of information because it did most of the work for you."

Nick Van Wieren,  
junior

**"**Technology helped us get the answers we needed a lot faster. Things would be so much harder to do without technology. Work would take twice as long."

Nolan Slifko,  
senior

**direct connection** While discussing the IU Honors program, seniors Adam Cooper, Sara Galante, and junior Jessica Binstuk use technology to talk about their trips to Spain, France and Mexico.

**scope it out** During biology, Stephanie Grabarczyk, freshman, asks a question about a lab. "Microscopes helped us see what we couldn't see," Stephanie said. "They helped us see the tiniest thing, clearly."



**easy answer** Bent over his calculator, Alex Baran, senior, calculates a problem for Mr. Bruce Curme's physics class. "Calculators help me do calculations faster instead of doing it all out on paper," Alex said. "Technology in general helps you relax and get away from school, like going online, but it also helps you with class work and reports."



**compute it** Carefully following his instructions, Joel Brumm, sophomore, starts to build a project for AutoCad on the computer. "We made models of houses, stadiums and sport courts," Joel said. "I liked doing the sports arenas because you could do whatever sport you wanted. I did basketball and baseball because those are the sports I play."

**tech savvy** Nervously smiling, Ariel Fischer, sophomore, teaches her journalism class how the television network works. Ariel used the SmartBoard equipment and PowerPoint to help explain her points.





# close at hand

**Scanning her eyes** over a problem, Kelsey Ellingsen, senior, tries to calculate the answer mentally. With a sigh, she pulls out her calculator and punches in the numbers to quickly find the solution.

"I like calculators because they're really helpful for complex numbers," Kelsey said.

Helpful technology, such as the calculator, created plenty of aid for students in need. Computers also aided students that needed to find information quickly.

"Computers got my homework done," Christina Greider, freshman, said. "They helped you find information faster than anything."

With the Internet available for looking up information for various projects and research papers quickly, students heavily relied on websites for completing assignments. Students also relied on word processor programs to type up papers and assignments.

"The Internet provided me with many different sources on various topics," Morgan Midkiff, junior, said. "[The Internet] made homework go faster, especially with research papers we did for English class."

Researching topics for classes proved to occasionally be a difficult task students dealt with during school. Getting online to look up information, with the help of respectable sources, solved issues with finding necessary knowledge to complete assignments.

"I looked up just about anything online," Ricky Decker, sophomore, said. "Any information you wanted was right at your fingertips."

Students not only used technology in order to find information for assignments, but they also used technology to study. Websites such as SparkNotes allowed students to refer back to books read in their classes.

"[SparkNotes] helped jog my memory," Armando Ramirez, sophomore, said. "Sometimes, I would miss something in a story that SparkNotes brings to light."

Different kinds of technology, unlike Internet resources, provided different aid for students during school such as cell phones used for texting and iPods to listen to during class.

"Even though you weren't supposed to, I would listen to my iPod during tests in school because it helped me focus and gave me motivation to do better," Mike Della Rocco, freshman, said.

As she scratched her pencil against her notebook, Kelsey smiled as she got to her last problem and happily pressed the clear button on her calculator. She closed her book knowing how much time she saved with the aid of technology.

**furious filming** Acting out a scene from Shakespeare's *Othello* for World Literature, Alex Rosales, senior, films Tim Yee, senior. "Technology gave you unlimited possibilities for class work and projects," Alex said.

*When faced with a difficult dilemma with school work, students rely on helpful technology*



**picture perfect** As she held the camera to her forehead, Cara Bruzan, junior, tries to find the perfect light. Students handled cameras carefully for Media Arts. Technology not only included calculators and computers, but also the equipment used in class





# can you hear me **NOW**

Opening the first week of October, an animated expression crossed a junior's face as he witnessed Kyle Stewart, senior, disguised as Winnie the Pooh. As he strolled deeper into the school, it appeared as if he entered a whole new town much like the Wizard of Oz.

"It was fun to be a part of [the pep rally] and to be in the action with all your friends."

Lainey Williams, sophomore

Tooth picks dangled out the side of students' mouths as they grew accustomed to the foreign object resting on their heads, a cowboy hat. The first day of the Homecoming Spirit Week, Western Day, officially began.

"I dressed up because it made me feel like I was part of school," Sarah Bobos, freshman, said.

The week promoted school spirit by encouraging students to participate in the spirit days.

"It was interesting to see what grades had the most spirit and it was cool to see what grade was the most united," Jose Aguilar, junior, said.

The week's highlights appeared on 80s Workout Day and Nerd Day for the seniors, according to Lazarick Whitlock, senior.

"It was the only week you could wear [a nerd] outfit and not look like a dork," Lazarick said.

At the pep rally, the united student body became segregated by the competition between the grades.

"I thought competition [at the pep rally] was fun because it was the only time that we all tried to defend our grade," Katherine Andreatos, sophomore, said.

The freshmen unexpectedly beat the seniors in Tug of War for the first time in years, while the seniors relished in the infamous "We Hate Freshmen" chant.

"I thought [the pep rally] was degraded because everyone hated freshmen," Emily McCullough, freshman, said.

For most, the week came as a relief from the grade craze of the end of the six weeks.

"It was something to look forward to in the beginning of the school year," Katie Silaj, sophomore, said. "It was a break from routine and it was always fun seeing everyone have spirit."



dressed for spirit success

## MONDAY

### Senior Movie Day

Taylor Compton, junior and Justin Newman, senior



Western Day  
Tony DiCostanzo, junior



Pirate Day  
Katie Palmer, sophomore



How long did it take to put your **Decades Day** outfit together?

“It took probably two hours to find the clothes and one hour to put it together.”

**Patricia Martin,**  
junior

“About five minutes. I just put it together with an old Halloween costume and things around the house.”

**Brian Fultman,**  
sophomore

“It took about a half an hour. I got my poodle skirt at the Halloween store.”

**Marionna Cane,**  
freshman

### break free

Arms up, seniors Jenna Brakulis and Ashley Arens scream at the top of their lungs at the Homecoming pep rally. “I wanted to help support our grade and interact at the pep rally,” Jenna said. “I wanted to go all out for my senior year.”

### powder puff

Mouth stuffed and powder on her fingers, Alex Cohen, senior, chows down on Munchkins for the doughnut hole eating contest during the pep rally. “I always wanted to do a food event because I thought it would be fun and I would have good memories,” Alex said. Even though Alex lost to Zach Vega, sophomore, she still left with sweet memories.



## TUESDAY

**Senior Hick Day**  
Mitch LaRock, senior



**Camouflage Day**  
Lainey Williams, sophomore

## WEDNESDAY



**Senior Nerd Day**  
Brittany Zehner, Kristina Keith, and Michelle Phillipsborn, seniors

## THURSDAY

**Senior 80s Work Out Day**  
Nick Stoffregen and Brian Sanders, seniors



## FRIDAY



**Class T-Shirt Day**  
Olivia Koufous, Alex Kattan, Marolle Cerveni, freshmen  
Jelena Grozdanich, sophomore, with juniors Leah Brousalis and Vanessa Cordova

## class act

Carefully placing the tissue paper, Rachael Heiniger works on the sophomore float in the field house garage. Coming in first place, The sophomores stole the spotlight with their apple tree. Faces painted, seniors Sam Kasmark and Amanda Scott show senior spirit while putting finishing touches on their float before the parade. "I felt like [seniors] needed to show the freshmen that they should have pride in their school and support what the school does," Class President Sam said. The senior float represented the Wicked Witch of the West. Leaning over, juniors Jerrett Tile and Sean Dillner paint the porch of the junior float that portrayed Dorothy's house.



## all in good fun

Students cheered throughout the fieldhouse stands during the Friday pep rally. As freshmen encouraged their classmate, Anthony Syler, to race during the Scarecrow Relay, supporting cheers flooded the gym as freshmen Michael Ortiz, Eric Frasco and Onanome Gbagi defeated the seniors in Tug of War to win the event. "I was thinking of how fun it would be to be in [Tug of War] and I tried to get other friends to sign up," Michael said. The crowd went wild as Nick Yi, senior, smeared whipped cream all over English teacher Mr. Jonas Werlin's head. Microphone in hand, Stefan Corti, senior, spoke to the crowd about the Soccer Team's season. Whipped cream in hair, freshman English teacher Mrs. Linda Lemon laughed at the fact that she got pied for the fourth time. Combining their strength, seniors Nick Stoffregen and Jack Standley tried to pull the freshmen over the line during Tug of War, but the seniors came up short as the freshmen pulled to victory.







Holly Brown  
with Jeff Florek



Alex Cohen  
with Sonny Marcetic



Kaitlin Hines  
with Brett Bertagnoli



Emily Kittell  
with Peter Ogrizovich



Ashley Lair  
with Brian Sanders



Jessica Korda  
with Nick Stoffregen

What did

# Homecoming

mean to you?

“Homecoming was a chance for people to get together and get to know each other better and have a good time.”

**Joey Navarro,**  
sophomore

“It’s a way to bring the school together, to generate school spirit and to have a great time.”

**Mimi Grozdanich,**  
senior

“Homecoming was a great experience no matter what you were involved in. For me being a Pom, it was just great to be in the parade and cheer for the football team and do our routine at halftime too. [Homecoming] meant lots of school spirit, energy and good times.”

**Rizzie Fisher,**  
junior

## royal honor

“Even though everyone always says ‘It’s An Honor,’ it truly was.” Homecoming Queen Megan McKenric, senior, said. “Out of all the senior girls to be singled out as the one and everyone for a brief moment hears, recognizes and sees you, it was a very special feeling... a memorable moment that I’ll always be able to look back on.” Jim Hunt, senior, escorted Megan. The Homecoming Court included seniors Holly Brown, Alex Cohen, Kaitlin Hines, Emily Kittell, Ashley Lair and Jessica Korda.

“It was a great time for everybody class wise to get together and share the spirit. We had fun doing the floats and it was nice to see the kids dress up and be excited about school.”

**Mrs. Jackie Podkul,**  
math teacher

“For me it was making the moment last because it was [my] senior year. It was my last chance to just enjoy and have a good time with my friends, even though I was not quite ready for everything to end just then.”

**Megan Yothmont,**  
senior

“It’s a time to get out of normal routine. It just takes the stress from school because it’s time to have fun.”

**Erick Ferrer,**  
junior

“To me Homecoming meant a lot of money since I had to get the flowers, buy the ticket, and everything else.”

**Mike Gauthier,**  
freshman





# more than opening NIGHT

**Offstage, Adam Bobeck**, junior, inhaled deeply as the lights started to dim in the auditorium. Actors behind him quickly lined up by the curtains, readying themselves for opening night.

"The thing I enjoyed most about performing was the reactions from others," Adam said. "Whenever you said something funny and the audience laughed, or when you did something sentimental, you got an overall warm feeling from the others performing. It was just a really interesting way of connecting with other people."

However, before the feel-good stage life, preparing for opening night caused stress not only actors but with technical staff behind the scenes as well.

"The hardest thing about being in the musical [*Godspell*] was the workload," Mallory McShane, senior, said. "Being in my first semester of senior year, I was taking difficult classes, going on college visits, writing applications, and on top of all that, rehearsals. At times it was difficult to manage, but everything worked out for the best."

Stress caused many actors to feel the pressure of perfecting their performance. This included first time actors for the Novice show, *Wild Oats*. Novice actors experienced jitters and stage fright. However, the jitters varied from actor to actor.

"I gave it my best," Tony Campana, sophomore, said. "I didn't really have stage fright. I was nervous for the first five minutes, but afterwards I felt confident."

Dealing with nerves, stress and confidence building proved difficult for actors, but memorizing lines for the show also caused complications during rehearsals.

"Getting everyone to memorize their lines [was the most challenging thing]," Kathryn Krull, junior, said. "No one knew their lines a week before [*Wild Oats*], but it turned out to be just the opposite for opening night. I was extremely happy that it all worked out."

Difficulties to deal with stress not only affected the actors with their performance, but also concerned the technical staff. Technical staffers attended Tech Week in order to practice stage moves which involved taking out certain pieces of scenery or props actors needed onto the stage during a blackout in between scenes.

During Tech Week, staffers from stage right and left, lighting and technical crew practiced their cues while the actors tried to accomplish perfection in their performance during rehearsals.

*continued on page 48*



# wild as could be

**Novice Production: *Wild Oats***  
**Dates: Sept. 27-28**  
**Directors: Kathryn Wadas and Russell Gonzalez**

## down in the dumps

With a gloomy face, Teddy Niemiec, freshman, stands with his father, Gammon, played by Emma Grdina, sophomore. "I liked how I had a semi-large role in the Novice show," Teddy said. "I really liked how I was able to do something I love and meet new people by doing it."

## secrets kept

With a surprised look, Tony Campana and Alisa Bochnowski, sophomores, perform together in *Wild Oats*. "Alise was so funny to work with," Tony said. "We poked around a lot but she's very mature. We got along great throughout the show."



## hold on tight

Tightly gripping sophomore Alisa Bochnowski, Robyn Hennig and Melissa Lee, sophomores, and Daniel Liner, junior, take Alise's character hostage. "Acting was a lot different than working backstage," Melissa said. Melissa worked backstage on Stage Right her freshman year.

## face the crowd

Actors know that expressive faces win the audience over. Hands together, Clarke Remmers, sophomore, gives a look of disgust during *Wild Oats*. "I came to understand that acting is not only dramatic but also can be comedic," Clarke said. As she sings "Beautiful City" in *Godspell*, Brenda Mintz, freshman, revives a brick to help build a city. With a scowl, Hunter Muckel, sophomore, discovered his character's son denied him in *Wild Oats*. With her arms in the air, Lyndsey Hernandez, senior, gleefully praises Jesus in *Godspell*. Acting as a reporter, Spencer Newell, freshman, gave a perplexing look during *Curse of the Cobra's Kiss*.



more  
than  
opening

## NIGHT

*continued from page 46*

"There's a lot involved during Tech Week," Production Manager Nick Van Wieren, junior, said. "We go through the show from beginning to end and work on stage moves to get us prepared for show night."

Before the final Tech Week occurred, auditorium staffers designed, built and painted sets for the scenery of each play during Production Week. Student Directors sketched out designs of what they wanted the set to look like. Then set builders started to work on putting the pieces together by attaching new pieces to the already existing set pieces used in previous student productions.

"I would say the best part of creating sets was the freedom of possibilities," Scenic Director Britney Breger, junior, said. "You controlled what the audience saw and did not see. Without the sets, the audience would have to imagine what the background would be like. Although our actors and actresses were very good, it would take a whole other level of thinking and acting to set the mood if we didn't have the sets. Sets were able to set a place, a time period, and background of what was going on."

During Production Week, lighting and technical staff practiced their cues for the productions. Cues included when special lighting and sound effects took place on stage during a certain part of the scene.

"Basically, we would go through cues during rehearsals to make sure that the lights were right for the show," Lighting Director David Kiesling, junior, said. "We would have to make adjustments to lighting if it was necessary during rehearsals to make sure things went smoothly."

As the Adam came forward to make his final bow, the house drowned in applause. With the help of the staff behind the scenes, the constant practicing from the actors' lines to the stage movements throughout Tech Week created success with standing ovations for *Wild Oats*, *Godspell* and *Curse of the Cobra's Kiss*.



## death from a curse

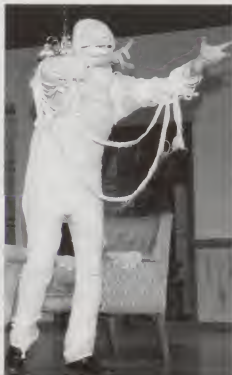
**Winter Play:** *Curse of the Cobra's Kiss*

**Dates:** Feb. 7-9

**Directors:** Mallory McShane and Janelle Boudreau

### wrapped up

Disguised as a mummy, Russell Gonzalez, senior, chases characters on stage. Russell and junior Nicole Rainer played the part of the mummy in *Curse of the Cobra's Kiss*.





### present arms

In unison juniors Nicole Ratnes and Melissa Hernandez, along with Brenda Mintz, freshman, sing together.

### best in show

While singing "All for the Best," Hunter Muckel, sophomore, dances along. "Probably 90 percent of the audience couldn't understand what I was saying because after every verse the song sped up," Hunter said.



## cast a spell

### Fall Musical Godspell

Dates:

Nov. 15-17

### ring leader

In his first lead role, Adam Boeck, junior, played Jesus in the fall musical, *Godspell*. "[I liked playing the part because] I got to dress up like a ring leader," Adam said. "People called me 'Jesus' for about a month after the show."



### word for thought

Deep in thought, Dan Linear, junior, and Julianne Watterson, senior, contemplate the killer. "I liked this play because there was a really fun cast to work with," Dan said. "I liked to be a Belgian and French man with an accent, too."

### die laughing

Caught in a giggle, senior Kathryn Wadas, junior Stephanie Septol, and freshman Haley Conger share a lighter moment with Daniel Linear, junior.



### take a stand

At roll call, John Carlson, senior, practices a bow with juniors Mary Sandrick and Manny Lopez and Hunter Muckel, sophomore. "I liked being active and eccentric on stage," John said.



### make note

After rehearsal, Mr. Larry A. Brechner, Auditorium Director, gives notes to cast. "I gave feedback to the performers and everyone else for the show," Mr. Brechner said.



# dolls take a CHANCE

**Chorus members lined up** anxiously backstage waiting for their cue. Clarke Remmers, sophomore, waited with them. As the *Guys and Dolls* overture started to slow and the stage light began to fade, Clarke inhaled as he set off for the stage.

"This musical was different because it was a lot more challenging," Clarke said. "The music was especially challenging because it required a lot out of people. It was hard for everyone to get it right."

Challenges actors faced involved perfecting music, which took practice and patience.

"It took a lot of time for the music to click," Doug Johnson, junior, said. "[Practices] were slow at first, but things got better during the final rehearsals."

To perfect the music, actors attended three to four hour rehearsals daily.

"The long rehearsals became tedious on my schedule," Kenn O'Drobinak, junior, said. "I had to fit in rehearsal time and time to study every day and be sure to keep up with everything at once."

Along with rehearsals, a large spring musical cast with 55 actors sang, danced and acted out on stage.

"With the large amount of actors, you got to know what each person could do on stage," Mark Knight, senior, said. "It made the show a lot more interesting and difficult because everyone had a different level of experience of acting and singing."

The cast provided diversity of experience and talent.

"The caliber of people in this production gave the show talent," Stephanie Sepiol, junior, said. "This musical had a bigger outcome of talented guys and girls than we usually had before. The array of talent provided a very good sound as a result."

Despite the work put in by new and veteran members of theater, actors found ways to have fun.

"After every show we got a group together and went out to eat or to someone's house," Kenn said. "It was fun to get together to have a good time."

As the last song ended, Clarke exhaled happily knowing even though the final production ended, the fun would not stop. Friends gathered together backstage after they removed their costumes and make-up and made plans to go to Red Robin or Steak-N-Shake. The show ended, but the fun would not.

## step in style

Clad in purple and white checkered dresses, freshman Katie Taylor and juniors Stephanie Ruiz, Nicole Raynor and Alex Kouklakis dance for a Hot-Box routine. Choreography added to the staging.



### all dolled up

Baring smiles, Maddie Hedin, sophomore, and Stephanie Sepiol, junior, finish off their duet in *Marry the Man Today*. "The lyrics were hilarious," Stephanie said. "We had a lot of fun during this song because of the comical lyrics. Our characters really connected during this scene of the musical."



### rock out loud

With arms extended, the cast *rocks* *Guns and Dolls* sing together on stage. "I enjoyed singing 'Rock the Boat' because the entire cast was on stage for this particular song," Hannah Wagner, freshman, said. "Everyone got into [the song] and there was so much energy which made it even better."

### blushing beauties

Bashfully looking down, Stephanie Sepiol, junior, and Hunter Muckel, sophomore, share a moment. "This wasn't the first time I acted as [Stephanie's] significant other in a production," Hunter said. "I was really comfortable working with Stephanie. We're friends, so it wasn't uncomfortable or anything." With his arm placed around Maddie Hedin, sophomore, Keni O'Drobinski, junior, grins brightly. "Nathan was a humorous role to play," Kenn said. "His humor and his relationship with Adelaide made me like him a lot."



### face the music

Brows furrowed junior Tanner Ollo as Big Lou, glares at Kenn O'Drobinski, junior. With a jovial smile, Mark Knight, senior, grins during "Fuge for Tinkers." "I loved my character, Nicely-Nice-ly," Mark said. "I learned a lot about facial expressions and characterizing differently with him." Dressed as a Sav-A-Soul member, David Blumberg, sophomore, patiently smiles, reflecting his character's emotion. Eyeing the audience, Clarke Remmers, sophomore, sings with the guys. "Actors had to have good facial expressions," Clarke said. "They gave the audience insight into how the character was feeling."



# fishing for **FAME**

**R**ed lights flooded the auditorium, as "17 Years" by Ratatat played on the speakers, drowning out the sound of the crowd. Devin Gosberry, Kristine Kho and Lazarick Whitlock, seniors, danced their way onto the stage leaving any traces of anxiety behind.

"Although I was nervous, I knew that not only myself, but Devin and Kristine, didn't show it in our [hip-hop dance] performance," Lazarick said. "We left [our nervousness] when we went on stage."

Excitement took over once performers went on stage allowing them to go crazy, according to Golden Bozos' guitarist Matt Shacklett, junior.

Also enjoying the stage, Matt Thompson and Nick Stoffregen, seniors, hosted the show with unscripted lines and jokes.

"[Student Government] ran Battle so we got to host it," Matt Thompson said.

The bands faced evaluation under three categories: how well they worked together, the level of entertainment, and the sound.

The scores ranged one to five. The highest a band could get was 15 per judge, according to Mr. Matt Kalwasinski, social studies teacher. Pilot Fish won by two points.

"[I was] really surprised and excited," Pilot Fish singer Mitch Hanak, junior, said. "We tried out last year and didn't make it, so we didn't expect to win."

Despite their novelty, Pilot Fish did not lack experience. Their guitarist, Zach Tritsch, sophomore, had played guitar for eight years.

Goodbye to Friday teased the crowd before going into their 30-minute set by pretending to play "Girlfriend" by Avril Lavigne.

Black and White singer and guitarist Tony Bissonette, junior, also joked with the crowd when they experienced guitar difficulties by saying, "If I had a dime for every time something went wrong at one of our shows..."

The band went on to play "War Pigs" by Black Sabbath in tribute to Kurt Webster, junior, who passed away in October.

"That was my favorite part of the whole [night]," Tony said. "I loved the message in the song and we played it for Kurt."

Contrarily, MIOH [Music Is Our High] chose to play "Low" by Flo Rida.

"It was a very popular song that we knew people would like," Ted Hanak, senior, said.

The crowd responded by setting up a rock star atmosphere, according to MIOH singer, Nick Yi, senior.

The crowd died down and slowly dispersed after the red lights faded to white and brightened the auditorium, signaling the show's end.

“

When my brother won instead of my band I didn't mind, I was proud of him.

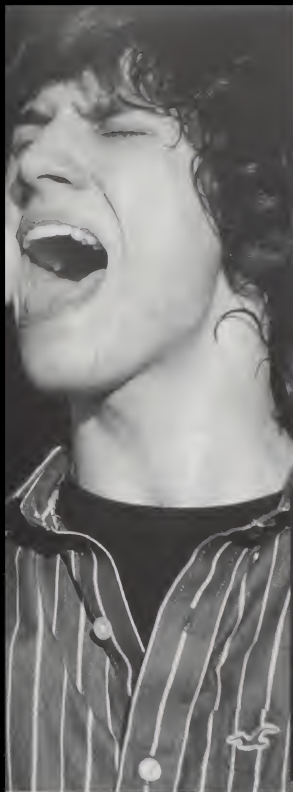
He's really talented and he just got into it so it was a major accomplishment for him.

”

Ted Hanak, senior

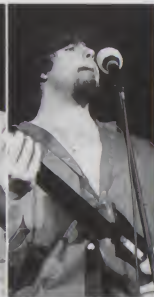


**stroke of luck** Passionately striking each chord Zach Tritsch, sophomore, plays along with Pilot Fish. "I had been playing for eight years," Zach said. "But I was still surprised when we won." Pilot Fish won Battle by two points.



**dance to another tune** Salsa dancing to Latino music, Eric Ferrer and Vanessa Cordova, juniors, bring a new kind of performance to the talent portion of the show.

**two's company** Arm around his girlfriend, Max Tratar and Jenna Tritsch, seniors, watch the show while supporting Pilot Fish. "We wanted Pilot Fish to win," Max said. "We were happy they did."



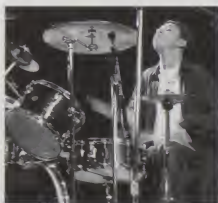
### all over but the shouting

beaten on stage, Dan Meyers, junior, smiles as he talks with the crowd before the show. The singers believed it was important to connect with the audience. Nick Yi, senior, felt the connection with the crowd when he heard them singing along with him. "I loved singing in front of my peers and performing with friends," Nick said. "I was so nervous though. The set was 30 minutes each, (yet) it felt like 30 seconds." Nick shared the moment with the crowd just as Hunter Muckle, sophomore, did when he jokingly played a Guitar Hero guitar during a song. "Everyone knew I couldn't play the guitar," Hunter said. "So I just did that as a joke." Tony Bissonette, junior, sang "War Pigs" by Black Sabbath for personal reasons. Black and White chose to play that song as a memorial to Kurt Webster, junior, and because of the message. "That was my favorite part," Tony said.

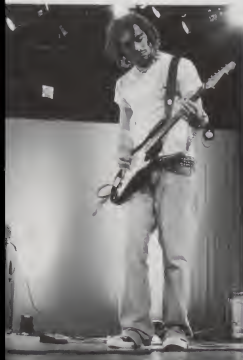
### and the winners...

1st Place	2nd Place
Pilot Fish	Golden
\$100	Bozos \$50

Student Government raised over \$4,000 for Riley's Childrens Hospital



**beat it out** As Dan Linneer, junior, drums away, he feels his heart pounding in his chest. "When I play I can feel my heart racing," Dan said. "I enjoyed Battle because I love playing." Dan played drums not only for his band, Black and White, but also in the school band.





## under the arch

At the Grand March before Prom, seniors Stephanie Le-mus and Brandon Ruiz walk the brick road in the field-house. The Grand March gave prom attendees and community members a chance to see everyone's attire.



## star treatment

Outside the Halls of St. George, Mary Hill, junior, and her Prom group decide what to leave in the limo before they head inside. "We were excited to get our dance on," Mary said. "The best part was getting there and seeing everyone. Then we immediately started dancing."



## in a flash

Holding their smiles, sophomores Lisa Zurek, Lainey Williams and Lauren I'azik wait for Mia Djuric, sophomore, to take their picture. "Taking pictures was nice because you got to look back on the memories and remember the good times," Lisa said.



## don't let go

As the sound of their favorite song hovered over the dance floor, seniors Asha Kanal, Russell Gonzalez, Nisha Raiker and Sarah Johnson let the music take them away. "It was a good way to end the year. Being with your friends, you had no worries," Nisha said. "We let everything go."

## secret ballot

After entering Prom, Devin Gosberry, senior, casts her vote for Prom King and Queen. "I liked being able to vote at the dance," Devin said. It was convenient. When you were sitting in class it was more based, where at the dance no one was influencing your vote."

# night on the TOWN

**A**rm extended one foot from her curled, twisted and styled hair, she sprayed another round of Herbal Essences Maximum Hold over the already immobile hair-do.

"I had a really good time at Prom. Not everyone was grinding on one another. It was fun dancing and you didn't have to be on someone."

Jenny Razez,  
senior

"Getting ready was always the most stressful part," Rachael Trevino, junior, said. "I had to plan everything on a time scale because I didn't want to get ready too early to where I was waiting around to go take pictures, or too late where I was rushing through last minute preparations. Even though it was stressful, it was still a lot of fun because not every day I got to dress up and feel special."

While girls tediously planned every detail for the day of the three formal dances, guys took a more relaxed approach.

"I chilled all day relaxing until about two hours before I had to leave," Abel Gutierrez, senior, said. "Then I took a shower, shaved, ironed my clothes and dabbed on some cologne. Girls put more effort into it than we did. We didn't stress because we had less to do."

Finally, the time came when students saw everyone in their group all dolled up for the special occasion. Cameras shot off everywhere as parents and friends did their best to capture the moment.

"I liked the (Prom) Grand March," Mary Hill, junior, said. "I got to see what everyone was wearing. Sometimes at the dance I didn't get a chance to see everyone."

After an hour or so of posing for snapshots and relishing in the details of the night, students headed off for the anticipated evening.

"The music was the best part of Prom," Jessica Filic, freshman, said. "It was a lot better than Homecoming or Turnabout. It was fun to dance to."

With sweat trickling down their temples, students moved to the beat of their own rhythm.

"The DJ [at Prom] was amazing," Mary said. "He played all the songs I really wanted to dance to. At other dances they would play those songs that were good but I couldn't really dance to them."

As the music died, students hopped into limos, party buses and cars. Heading out to a restaurant or friend's house let the night linger on.

"After Turnabout [my group] went to Meijer and got some food," Troy Lolkema, sophomore, said. "Then we went to a friend's house."

Using up every last second of the night, students found themselves reluctant to allow it to come to an end.

"The next day at my house in the early morning hours, my friends and I realized Prom was one of the last formal outings as a group before we went our separate ways for college," Michael Wey, senior, said.



# Will you go to the dance

with me?

Students find creative ways to ask that special someone.

“There was a song in the background about keeping people close. I asked her at the perfect moment. We were having a luau on the beach in Hawaii at sunset.”

**Steven Taylor,**  
junior

“I went to her house when she wasn't home and I decorated her bedroom with streamers.”

**David Garcia,**  
junior

“On the last night of our Hawaii trip for Band, we were sitting on a beach to watch the fireworks together and my date wrote, 'Will you go to Prom with me?' in the sand.”

**Erin Montgomery,**  
sophomore

## step it up

Focused on keeping up with the music, Alyse Johnson, sophomore, and juniors Celeste Avina and Sara Kruhak make their own moves. “I liked going in a group because you tried to compete and see who could dance better than the other, but when you were with a date you only danced with that person,” Celeste said.



“I made him a Build-a-Bear with a Cubs shirt because I'm a Cub's fan and he's a Sox fan.”

**Taylor Brian,**  
senior

“I asked Alex [Cohen] by putting big signs leading to her house saying 'Alex will you go to Prom with me?' Then I stood in front of her garage waiting.”

**Sonny Marcetic,**  
senior

“I made a poster and put it on his front door.”

**Sarah Whiting,**  
sophomore

## filled to the brim

Plate in both hands, Anja Mitric, senior, allows her date, Ratonav Pavic, 20, to fill up her plate with different samples. “I liked the dinner last year better because we got a break [from dancing],” Anja said. “This year at the end of the night everyone was exhausted because you danced all night long.”

## march along

On the way through the Grand March, Nolan Sličko and Amanda Scott, seniors, smile to the cameras. “It was nice seeing all the kids who didn't go to Prom come out to see all their friends that did go,” Nolan said. Nolan and Amanda enjoyed the Grand March because it offered a chance to see all of the couples.





### in step

Together, Jill Koselke, junior, and her date walk to the fieldhouse for the Grand March. Students attended the Grand March in order to get their pictures taken and meet up with their friends.

### break down

On a bench at Turnabout, Jake Smith, senior, sits the dance out with his date, Chelsea Cierymski, Highland senior. "I got tired of holding my cast up," Jake said. Jake broke his arm in a wrestling match before the dance.



### gartered up

With his date's garter around his head, Steve Zelenika, senior, dances in the crowd. Adding to the Prom traditions, girls wore garters and the boys received them during the dance.



## keep the date



Martha Mihich,  
junior  
Clarke Remmers,  
sophomore

### Homecoming

**Theme:** "No Place Like Homecoming"

**Sponsor:** Student Government

**Date:** Oct. 6

**Place:** Fieldhouse

**Time:** 7 - 10 p.m.

**Price:** \$17 for singles

\$34 for couples



Margaret Heneghan,  
sophomore  
Alex Hilos, junior

### Turnabout

**Theme:** "Candyland"

**Sponsor:** Cheerleaders

**Date:** Feb. 23

**Place:** Fieldhouse

**Time:** 7 - 10 p.m.

**Price:** \$18 for singles

\$36 for couples



Danielle Cacich,  
junior  
Alex Vlahu,  
sophomore

### Prom

**Theme:** "Passport to Paris"

**Sponsor:** Junior CEC

**Date:** April. 26

**Place:** Halls of St. George

**Time:** 6 - 10 p.m.

**Price:** \$35 for singles

\$70 for couples



# largerthanlife

## definingfinalmoments

"I will remember my senior year my whole life because three fourths of it was in a cast because I had screws coming out of my leg, which I broke during a basketball game."

**Johnathon Eloisa**

"Prom was great because it was the last time we would all be together, and it symbolized the end of senior year."

**Alex Cohen**

"Singing in front of 1,000 people in Battle of the Bands with my super-awesome band MIOH. Hearing the whole audience sing the song 'Move Along' with me was a surreal experience."

**Nick Yi**

"Learning to move on from past experiences, not holding on to regrets that were not worth dwelling over and opening myself to new things and new people."

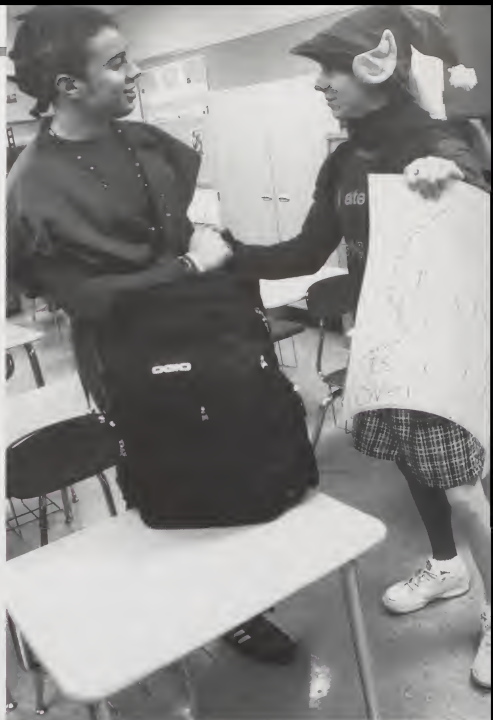
**Fariyah Hossain**

"Getting Serve-Safe Certified [certified to serve after knowing proper food sanitation] at the Career Center, it was a big accomplishment. It was a good thing to have for helping me get a culinary job."

**Andrew Radbel**

### santa's helpers

Meeting with Stefan Coric, senior, Bryan Sanders, senior, wears elf gear before the Dec. 11 basketball game against East Chicago (EC) to match his sign that read, "All I Want for [Christmas] is a win over EC."



### the take down

Elbows down, Jennifer Razy and Nick Morelli, seniors, arm wrestle during Mr. Jonu Werten's World Literature class. Classes provided another option for students to become friends. Jennifer and Nick became closer after sharing classes senior year.

## wordsofwisdom

"Try your best because it does matter and if you don't work to your fullest potential, you're going to regret it senior year when you're applying to colleges."

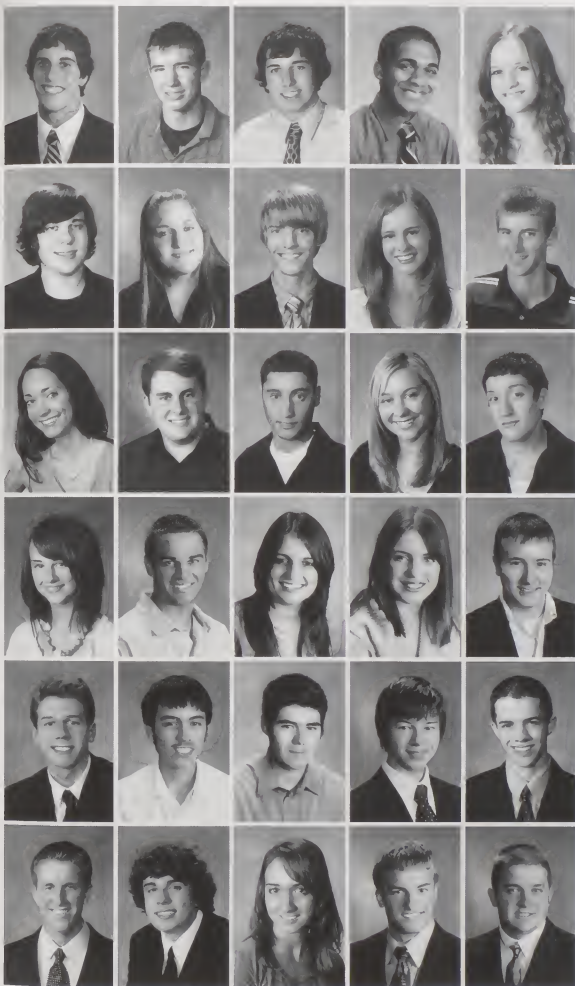
**Pooja Kansal**

"Put in your best work at least from freshman year through first semester of senior year. If you try hard and do your best for that long, colleges will see and it will pay off for you, literally. Don't just quit your second semester, but don't kill yourself either."

**John Jurkash**

"Don't be afraid to be friends with different types of people. It'll make your life more interesting."

**Amina Benman**



Joseph G. Abu-Aita: Football 9-12; Track 9-12 (capt. 12)  
 Stephen Adams  
 Keaton Akty: Football 9-10; French 9-12 (vice pres. 12);  
 Danny Alexander: Tennis 9-12; Student Govt. 9-12; Speech & Debate 9-12; French 11-12; NHS 12  
 Tieg Elyse Alexander: Debate 9; Soccer 9-10; Orchestra 9-12; Spanish 9-12; Art 9-10, 11  
 Honors 11; NHS 11-12

Trevor Alexander  
 Valerie Alvarez: Softball 9; Swimming 9-12;  
 Eric Bradley Anderson: DECA 9-12 (pres. 12); Student Govt. 9, 11-12 (vice pres. 12); Academic Team 9-12 (pres. 12, vice pres. 11); Cross Country 10-12; Swimming 10-12; Track 10-12; NHS 11-12; Project X 9-12  
 Katie Anderson: Ensembles 11-12; NHS 11-12; Theater 9-12; Project X 9-11; Jazz Band 11; Spanish 9-11; SADD 9; Thespian 12; Academic Team 9-10; CEC 9-10  
 Jovan Andjelich: Band 9-11; French 11-12; Track 10-12; Cross Country 11-12; Basketball 9-10; NHS 11-12  
 Carolyn Andrews: Volleyball 9; Spanish 10; SADD 10; Project X 10; NHS 11-12  
 Nick Anello  
 Jeremy Aponte: Football 9; Basketball 9; Baseball 9, 11-12  
 Ashley Arens: Cheerleading 9; Track 9-11; SADD 9-10; ASL 11-12  
 Jesus Avina: Wrestling 10-12; Spanish 11

Mary Baggett: Dance Team 9; French 9-12; Crier page editor 12; Pub Photographer 12; African Dance 12  
 Justice Bakker: Spanish 11-12  
 Kerian Ballanco: Swimming 9, CEC 9, Project X 9-12; NHS 11-12; SADD 12; German 9-12 (sec. 11, pres. 12)  
 Michelle Ballard: Band 9-12; CEC 10  
 Justin Basile

Tommy Bassetto: Swimming 9-12; Golf 10-12; NHS 11-12  
 Alexandro Bazan: Spanish 12  
 Steven C. Beatty: Football 9-12  
 Edwin Becker: Baseball 9; JETS 11-12; Spanish 11; French 11; Academic Team 11; DECA 11-12; Project X 11; SADD 11  
 Michael Becka: Speech & Debate 9-10; SADD 9-12; Project X 11; Spanish 9-11

Pat Behrens: Tennis 9-12 (capt. 12); Basketball 9-12; CEC 9-10 (pres. 10)  
 Adam Belkairous: Swimming 9-12; French 9-12; NHS 11-12  
 Amina Benman: Diving 10-12 (capt. 12); German 12; French 9-12  
 Philip Bernardi: Band 9-12  
 Brett Bertagnolli: Football 9-12; NHS 11-12

Jacob Biscari: Football 9; Baseball 9-12  
 Lauren Blazovich: Soccer 9-11; ASL 12  
 Samantha Bonessa: Ensembles 10-12  
 Matt Bonini: Baseball 9-12  
 Megan Bonke: Art 9; Theater 9-10



Jordana Botone: Band 9; Swimming 10-11;  
 Project X 9-10; ASL 11-12; Track 10; Orchestra 9  
 Bernadette Bowen: French 9-12; Track 11-12;  
 SADD 12; Project X 12  
 Kyle Boyd: German 9-11; Pub Photographer  
 11-12  
 Daniel Mark Boyle: Swimming 9-12; Track 10-  
 11; German 9-12; Band 9-10  
 Trevor Bozich: Football 9; NHS 11-12; Baseball  
 9-12; Spanish 9-10



Tatiana Bozovic: Soccer 9; SADD 10-12; French  
 10-11  
 Allen Bradaric: Football 9-10  
 Jeffrey Bragiel: Football 9-11; German 9-11;  
 Baseball 9  
 Alexander Brajak: Football 9-12 (capt. 12);  
 Basketball 9-11; Track 9-10, 12  
 Jenna Brakulis: Volleyball 9; Basketball 9;  
 Track 9; Cheerleading 11; ASL 12 (vice pres.)  
 Taylor Brian: Cheerleading 9-12 (capt. 12)



Hollis Brown: SADD 10-12; Project X 10-12  
 Sabrina Brown  
 Mitchell E. Bruhn: Band 9; French 10-12 (pres.  
 12)  
 Meredith Brumm: SADD 9  
 James Burgwald: Cross Country 9-12; Track  
 9-12; Student Govt. 9-10, 12; CEC 11; Spanish  
 11; NHS 11-12



Mitch Calabrese  
 Marc Tabayoyong Campos: Football 9; NHS  
 11-12; Band 9-12; Track 11-12  
 Melissa M. Cappel: Band 9-12; German 9-12;  
 Softball 9; CEC 9-10; Spanish 10-11; NHS 11-12  
 John Carlson: Theater 11-12  
 Kristina Noel Carlson: Soccer 9-12 (capt. 12);  
 Track 10-11



Daniel J. Carr: Band 9-12  
 Valerie Nicole Carrillo: Band 9-12; Speech  
 & Debate 10; French 9, 11-12; German 9, 11;  
 Theater 9-12  
 Juan Carlos Ceja Jr.  
 Chris Cheng: Track 9-11; Swimming 9-12;  
 French 9-12; NHS 11-12  
 Katelyn E. Chovane: Softball 9-12; Basketball  
 9-11; DECA 9-10; Art 9



### 3 Valedictorians

move beyond grades, class competition

**Amy Fuhs** organized a Shoe Drive to help needy children

**Blake Williams** climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro during the summer of sophomore year

**Sophia Griggs** took ballet classes since she was four years old

### 1 Salutatorian

**Grant Huebner** worked at the Highland Target in to help pay his college tuition

### where are they going?

**Amy Fuhs**  
Indiana University  
-Neuroscience, Spanish

**Blake Williams**  
Stanford University  
-Biology

**Sophia Griggs**  
University of Pennsylvania  
-Business

**Grant Huebner**  
Indiana University  
-Business Economics,  
Public Policy

**calculation time**  
As part of the NHS requirement, Amy Fuhs, senior, tutors Mary Drzich, sophomore, in math. NHS students needed 30 service hours to retain honors recognition



**Arefin Chowdhury:** Speech & Debate 9-12, Academic Team 9-12; Spanish 11; DECA 12  
**Sarah Chowdhury:** Spanish 9-10; Tennis 9-12; Academic Team 9-12; Speech & Debate 9-12 (capt. 12); French 11; SADD 11; DECA 11-12 NHS 11-12  
**Ruth Christopher:** Spanish 9-11; Speech & Debate 9-12; NHS 11-12; SADD 12; Cross Country 12  
**Oscar Cisneros:** Basketball 9; Track 12; DECA 12  
**Nicoletta Coduti:** Dance Team 9 (capt.); Tennis 9-10; SADD 9-12; Project X 9-12; CEC 11-12 (sec. 12); Speech & Debate 11, IU Honors 11; NHS 11-12  
**Alexandra Cohen:** Cheerleading 9-10; Project X 10; German 10-11; French 10-11; SADD 10-12; ASL 11-12; NHS 11-12  
**Jennifer Collinsworth:** Softball 9, Art 9  
**Adam Howard Cooper:** Art 9-12 (pres. 12); German 9-12 (treas. 11); IU Honors 11; NHS 11-12; DECA 11-12 (pres. 12); Academic Team 12 (capt. 12) Orchestra 9-12; Soccer 9-12, Track 9-10; SADD 12; ASL 12; Spanish 12; French 12  
**Stefan Coric:** Basketball 9; Soccer 9-12 (capt. 12); SADD 12  
**Daniel Creagh:** Football 9-11; German 9-12; Track 10



## what mom had to say

“My mom said that she loved my tattoo and enjoyed all the intricate detail. She said it made her want to get a tattoo.”

Caleb Edens

“Mrs. [Lynn] Schumacher told my mom. My mom was furious because I didn't tell her that I got a tattoo. She got over it though.”

Kara Korem

## tattoo taboo

**24% of Americans between the ages 18 to 50 have tattoos.**

■ Tattooing has been used as a way of smuggling secret messages across enemy lines in times of war.

■ Removing a tattoo can cost up to three times more than the design.

■ The most painful areas to get tattoos are those where the skin is close to the bone, such as the ankles, elbows and knees.

according to  
www.brockexpress.com

### hair line

While Lauren Fuehrmeyer, senior, holds up her hair Megan Bonke, senior, takes a look at Lauren's 'fertility' symbol tattoo. Tattoos proved a way for students to express themselves in a new way. "I chose that tattoo because I developed an interest in Norse mythology. The symbols represent strength, femininity, mysteriousness and knowing your own destiny," Lauren said.



**Kristina Cretu:** Softball 9-10; DECA 9-10; Project X 9-12

**Cherlyn Crozier**

**Jessica Renae Cuadra:** Track 10-11; Project X 10-11; Spanish 10-11; Cross Country 11-12; NHS 11-12

**Kevin Curosh:** Basketball mang. 9, 11-12;

Spanish 10-11

**Samantha Curtis:** Basketball 9; Track 9-10; CEC 9-10 (vice pres.); Theater 10-12; Golf 11-12; NHS 11-12

**Natasha Danielle Damjanovich:** Swimming 10-12; CEC 11-12 (vice pres. 12); Project X 9-11; SADD 9-12; NHS 11-12; Dance Team 9; Spanish 9-10

**Cristal del Real:** Softball 9

**Samantha Dempsey:** Project X 10

**Edward DeTrayon**

**Patrick J. Doherty:** Football 9-12; NHS 11-12; Track 9; CEC 9, 11-12





Julianne Donahue: Basketball 9; Spanish 11-12  
 Darrell S. Dortch: Football 9  
 Neil Doshi: DECA 12; Academic Team 11-12; Project X 11; SADD 11, NHS 11-12; Spanish 9-11; French 9-11  
 Tyler Drabenstot: Band 9-12; French 10-11, NHS 12  
 Andrew J. Drudge: Swimming 9, 12; ASL 12 (pres.)

James Dubish: German 10-11  
 Brandon Dutton  
 Caleb J. Edens  
 Kelsey Ellingson  
 Jonathon Eloisa: Soccer 10; Track 11

Jennifer Nader Eskander: African Drum 11; Theater 11-12; Ensembles 11-12; NHS 11-12 (co-pres. 12); Speech 12  
 Janea Evans: Spanish 9; French 10; Track 12; Art 12  
 Tom Fagan  
 Abby Farkas: Art 9-10; Band 9-12; Spanish 11  
 Jeffrey Byron Florek: Football 9-12; NHS 11-12; Debate 11-12

Alexandra Leigh Frakes: Swimming 9-12; CEC 9 (sec.); Volleyball 9  
 Lauren Fuehrmeyer: SADD 9; German 10-12; Pub photographer 10-12  
 Amy Fuhs: Project X 9-12; Track 9-12; Spanish 10-11; SADD 10-12; Debate 10-12; Cross Country 11-12; IU Honors 11; Soccer 9-10; Basketball 9; Co-Valedictorian  
 Stephanie Gajewski: Track 9-12; Swimming 10-12; German 11-12  
 Sara Galante: Spanish 9-10; Tennis 9-10; Speech 9-12; Ensembles 11-12; NHS 11-12; Theater 11-12; IU Honors 11

Crystal Garibay: Swim 9-10; Spanish 10; Track 10  
 Jacob Arthur Gerber: French 9-11; DECA 11; Track 9-10, 12; Cross Country 9-10, 12  
 Carly Gibbs: Speech 9-12 (pres. 12, sec. 11); Project X 10; NHS 11-12; Spanish 9-11; Academic Team 9, 11  
 Edward Gier: Cross Country 9; Track 9-12; NHS 11-12  
 Nick Gillund: Football 9

Russell Gonzalez: Speech 9-12; Theater 9-12; Spanish 10-12; Crier 11; NHS 11-12  
 Brian Good  
 Zachary Goode  
 Robert W. Gorman: Band 9-12  
 Stephanie Gorman: Softball 9; Pub photographer 10-12

Devin Gosberry: Track 10-12; IU Honors 11; Speech & Debate 11-12; Cross Country 12; Theater 11  
 Clarissa Gosciej: Ensembles 9-10; Speech 9-11; Theater 9-11; French 10-12  
 Karen Gouwens: Soccer 9-12  
 Nikkida Graham  
 Sophia Griggs: Soccer 9-10; Track 9-12; French 9-12; Cross Country 10-12; NHS 11-12; Co-Valedictorian



Kassia Lauren Groszewski: Project X 9; Band 9-12; Theater 9-12; French 9-12; NHS 11-12  
 Milana Grozdanich: Dance Team 9; Art 9; Spanish 9-12; SADD 9-12; Project X 9-12; IU Honors 11; NHS 11-12 (vice pres. 12)  
 Anna Guanzon: Tennis 9-10; Project X 11-12; NHS 11-12; *Crier* 10-12 (Ed.-in-Chief 12, page editor 11)  
 Abel Gutierrez: Speech 9-10; Spanish 9-10; French 11-12  
 Ted Hack: French 9-10



Kenneth Hamilton: Football 9; Track 9-11; Cross Country 10-12; Project X 11; SADD 12  
 Ted Hanak: Football 9; Track 9-10; Theater 11  
 Stephanie Ann Handlon: Band 9-12; French 9-11; German 9-11; Art 9  
 Gabe Harangody: Debate 10-12; Football 9; Band 9  
 Billy Hasse: Football 9-12; Soccer 9-12 (capt. 12)



Julie Hawkins: Orchestra 9-12; German 10-12; NHS 12  
 Angela Wong Hehn: Orchestra 9-12; Band 10; Ensembles 11-12; Spanish 11-12; NHS 11-12; Project X 9 11; Art 9  
 Kathryn M. Helfen: Volleyball 9; French 10; Track 10, 12; Cross Country 11-12  
 Laura E. Hennig: Band 9-10; Golf 9-11; Art 10; Swimming 10; Softball 9-12  
 Basil Herbeck: Baseball 11



John Heritage: Cross Country 9; Wrestling 10  
 Felipe Andres Hernandez: Band 9-11; Space Fleet Six 12  
 Harrison Hernandez: Swimming 11-12  
 Lyndsey Hernandez: Spanish 9; Ensembles 10-12; Theater 9-12  
 Jessica Hilbrich: German 9-12; Speech 10-12; Track 10, 12; Academic Team 11; NHS 11-12; Basketball 9; Softball 9; CEC 9-10 (treas. 9); SADD 12



Ron Hileman  
 Kaitlin Hines: SADD 9-11; Project X 10-11; ASI 11-12; NHS 11-12; Dance Team 9; Tennis 9-10  
 Ethan Hirsch: Band 9-11  
 Mike Hluska: Wrestling 10-11; Football 9-10  
 Amanda K. Hoffman: Basketball 9; Softball 9-12; Project X 10-12; French 12



## larger than life

Why did you  
decide to  
vote?

"I decided to vote because Indiana actually mattered for once in this election. This election was a huge deal, and I wanted to be apart of that!"

**Gabe Harangody**

"[I decided to vote] because I felt that it was my obligation as an American citizen to do so."

**Pat Behrens**

## sign me up

With pen in hand, seniors including Carolyn Andrews and Mark Knight signed their names to register to vote in the 2008 elections. "Being able to vote was sort of exciting to me," Mark said. "I felt like I had more responsibility after I signed up."

"I decided to vote in the Presidential election because even though I'm just one person, I could actually make a difference anyway."

**Nick Anello**

"I had been looking forward to voting all my life. I felt like I had a voice for our government. I actually had a say in what was going to happen in our country."

**Jenny Eskander**



Nicole Hong: Speech & Debate 10-12; *Crier* 11-12; (Managing Ed. 12, page ed. 11); NHS 11-12; IU Honors 10; French 10-12 (pres. 12); Academic Team 10-12; Project X 11-12  
Alexandra Hora: Swimming 9-12; German 10; Spanish 10; African Drum 11; ASL 11-12 (vice pres. 12)  
Benjamin Horowitz  
Farimah Hossain: Art 9; Speech 9-11; CEC 10; SADD 10; Project X 10; *Paragon* 11; NHS 11-12  
Patrick R. Howard: Art 9; Spanish 9-10; Football 9-12; Baseball 9-12; NHS 11-12

Megan Kathleen Hruska: German 9-11; Speech 9-12; Track 9-12; Project X 11; Cross Country 11-12; NHS 11-12  
Taylor Hubbard: *Paragon* 12  
Courtney Huckaby: Track 9; Cross Country 9-10  
Grant Huebner: Tennis 9; French 9-12; SADD 11-12; Spanish 11-12; Girls' Basketball Mang. 12; Salutatorian  
James Hunt



# larger than life

## drinkup

caramel  
frappuccino 12oz

orange  
juice 8oz

red bull 8oz

	calories	200	110	110
	total fat (g)	11	0	0
	sugar (g)	39	22	27
	carbs (g)	46	26	28
	caffeine (mg)	85	0	80

www.starbucks.com www.tropicana.com www.redbull.com

### big gulps

In need of caffeine, Kassia Groszewski and Kelsey Ellingsen, seniors, enjoy coffee in the band room during Contact Time. "Any type of caffeine helped me get through the day," Kassia said. "Tea and coffee were my favorites. Whenever I drank some, it would help wake me up."

After a long day of school, Bernadette Bowen and Jenny Razey, seniors, indulge in some after school pick up at Munster Donut.



Risa Hurwich  
Joseph Jamcich  
Julie Janis

Andrew Johnson: German 9-12 (pres. 11, vice pres. 12); JETS 10-12 (capt. 11); Project X 9-10; Speech & Debate 9-11; Orchestra 9-12

Mike Johnson



Sarah Carolyn Johnson: Golf 9-12 (capt. 12); Softball 9-10; Spanish 9-12; Speech & Debate 10-12; Project X 10-12; SADD 10-12; Paragon 11; NHS 11-12

John Jurkash: Football 9-12 (capt. 12); Track 9-10, 12; NHS 11-12

Andrew Kaminski: Swimming 9-12 (capt. 12); Golf 9-12; NHS 11-12

Natasha Kanal: German 9-10; French 9-10; SADD 9-11; Speech & Debate 9-12; Project X 9-12; Cross Country 10-11; ASL 11

Pooja Kansal: Tennis 9-10; French 9-11; Project X 10-11; SADD 10-11; NHS 11-12





Sam Kasmarek: CEC 11-12 (pres. 12); NHS 11-12; Cross Country 9-12; Track 9-12; SADD 11; Spanish 11  
 Brett Keeler: Baseball 9-12 (capt. 12); Football 9-11; Basketball 9  
 Kristina Ashley Keith: Debate 10-12; Track 10-12; Spanish 11-12; German 12  
 Eleanor Patricia Kennedy: Debate 9-12 (capt. 11-12); NHS 11-12; Spanish 9-11; Academic Team 9-11; Softball 9-12; SADD 11-12  
 Neil Keshvani: Spanish 9-12; French 9-12; Academic Team 9-12; DECA 10-12; German 11; NHS 11-12; Project X 11-12; SADD 11-12

Pooja Khatiwada: Orchestra 9-12; Project X 9-12; French 10-11; Spanish 10-12; SADD 10-12; NHS 11-12; Tennis 9-10  
 Kristine Kho: Track 9-10; Golf 11-12; Basketball 9  
 Katherine M. Kikalos: German 9-12 (treas. 12); SADD 9  
 Nora Kish  
 Emily Kittichell: Tennis 9-12; SADD 10-12; Project X 10-12; Dance Team 9-10

Mark D. Knight: German 9-11; African Drum 10; Ensembles 10-12; Theater 10-12; NHS 11-12  
 Ashley Kolar: French 9-11; German 9-11; Basketball 9; Track 9  
 Kelsey Koov  
 Jessica Korda: Volleyball 9-12 (capt. 11-12); CEC 11; Student Govt. 12; Softball 9  
 Kara Korem: Diving 9-12; Band 9-12; Softball 9

Annie Koulianos: German 10; French 10-12  
 Jacqueline Kovach: Dance Team 9-12 (capt. 12); French 9-12; SADD 9-12; Project X 10 12; NHS 12  
 Paulina Kozupa: Academic Team 10-12; Project X 10-12; French 10-12; SADD 11-12; Spanish 11-12; NHS 11-12; Track 9-10; Swimming 9  
 Miles Krasic  
 Dan Kretz: Track 9-12; French 11-12 (treas. 11); NHS 12

Megan Krueger: Dance Team 9-10; SADD 9-10  
 Charles Krull: Speech & Debate 9-12; Theater 10-11; Ensembles 11-12; NHS 11-12  
 Caleb Kurowski: Band 9-12; German 11 12; NHS 11-12  
 Paul Kuzma: Spanish 9 12, DECA 11-12  
 Ashley Lair: Cheerleading 9-10 (capt. 9); Project X 9-10; NHS 11-12; SADD 9

Mitchell LaRock: Football 9-12; Wrestling 9-11; Track 9  
 Karen Larsen: Track 9-12 (capt. 12); French 9-12 (pres. 12); Basketball 9-10; Project X 10  
 Sara Larsen: Band 9-12; Track 11; Basketball 9  
 Breanne Lawler: Swimming 9-12; NHS 11-12  
 Sarah Lefkowsky

Stephanie Lemus: Project X 9; Volleyball 9-10  
 Justine Leonakis: DECA 10-11; SADD 12;  
 Softball 9-10; Basketball 9-10; CEC 9  
 Brad Levan: Golf 11-12  
 Kim Long: French 9-12 (vice pres. 12, treas. 11);  
 Theater 9-12; Track 9-12; Student Govt. 9-12  
 (sec. 12, hist. 11); Ensembles 10-11; Academic  
 Team 10, 12; SADD 10-12 (pres. 12) NHS 11-12  
 (treas. 12); Thesplan 12; Volleyball 9  
 Jeffery Longawa: Swimming 9-10

Judith Maddatu: Speech & Debate 9-12; French  
 9-12 (sec. 12); Project X 9, 12; IU Honors 11;  
 Cross Country 11; NHS 11-12; German 12  
 Mitch Malone  
 Megan Mann  
 Marcelina Manuel: Art 9-12; German 9-12;  
 French 9-10, 12  
 Aleksander Marcetic: Soccer 9-12; Swimming  
 9-12; NHS 12; French 10-12; Spanish 11;  
 German 11

Sam Mardyla: Spanish 9-12; Academic Team 9-12;  
 DECA 10-12; Project X 10-11; Debate; French  
 11-12; Art 9-11; ASL 11  
 Marianne Marinakos: NHS 11-12; Project X  
 9-11; Track 9-10; Basketball 9; Swimming 10;  
 Spanish 10  
 Nick Markovich: German 9-12; Track 9-12  
 Project X 12  
 Steve Markovich: German 9-12 (sec. 12);  
 Project X 11-12  
 Kelly Mashura: Basketball 9-10; Softball 9-12;  
 NHS 11-12; Volleyball 9

Evan Maul: Football 9-10; Wrestling 9-11;  
 German 9-12  
 Shannon McCarthy: Swimming 9-12 (capt. 12);  
 Project X 11; NHS 11-12; Volleyball 9  
 Walter Everett McDonald III: Football 9-12;  
 Basketball 9  
 Erin McIntyre: Orchestra 9-12; DECA 10-12;  
 NHS 11-12; Soccer 9; Project X 9-10  
 Megan Lynn McKechnie: Cheerleading 9-12  
 (capt. 12); SADD 10, 12; Student Govt. 10-12;  
 Softball 9-10; Project X 10; Homecoming Queen

Mallory McShane: Theater 9-12; Golf 10-12;  
 NHS 11-12; Speech & Debate 9-11; Ensembles  
 9-11; Soccer 9; Project X 9;  
 Allison Medina: Track 9-11; Soccer 9-12;  
 Speech & Debate 10-11  
 Jon Merritt: Speech & Debate 9-11; French 9-12  
 (vice pres. 11); Academic Team 11-12; NHS  
 11-12  
 Kari Michniewicz: Basketball 9-10; Project X  
 10; Golf 10-11; SADD 11; NHS 11-12  
 Sarah Mihich: Art 9-11; Orchestra 9-12; ASL  
 10-12; Band 9-10

Carl Milbrath: Spanish 9; Speech & Debate 10;  
 Track 10, 12  
 Brandon Miller: Football 9-12 (capt. 12);  
 Baseball 9-12 (capt. 12); NHS 11-12; Basketball 9  
 Ryan Miller: Speech & Debate 9; Crier 10-11  
 (Design Ed. 11); NHS 11-12; Academic Team 12  
 Anja Mitric: Swimming 9-12; German 9-12;  
 Project X 11; DECA 11-12  
 Natalie Miyashiro: Dance Team 9-11; SADD  
 11; Project X 11



# sure beats meat

## vegetarians vs. non-vegetarian lunch log

vegetarians  
vegetarians  
non-vegetarians

Sarah  
Mihich

Juice, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, granola bar, and grapes

Brittany  
Zehner

Lemonade, fruit, and a sandwich or pasta

Christian  
Arteaga

Milk, chicken fries, mashed potatoes with gravy, bread roll, and fruit

Ivana  
Njegomir

Wild Cherry Pepsi, cheeseburger, potato wedges, and fruit

## what's the difference

### vegans

do not eat any products that came from animals.

### pescatarians

do not eat any type of meat or animal product with the exception of fish.

### flexitarians

eat mostly a vegetarian diet but occasionally eat meat or animal products.

### lacto-ovo vegetarians

do not eat meat or animal products with the exception of dairy and eggs.

#### veg out

Engaged in light table talk, Brittany Zehner, senior, listens after she finished her meal. Brittany chose to become a vegetarian as a way to eat healthier and prevent potential cruelty towards animals.



Elizabeth Monell: Volleyball 9-12; Softball 9-11; CEC 11; German 11  
Ashley Marie Moore: Softball 9-12; Project X 10-12; NHS 11-12; Basketball 9-10; Volleyball 9  
Alesandra Gabriel Mora: Project X 9-11; French 9-12; SADD 12; Student Govt. 9  
Brian Murphy: Swimming 10  
Justin D. Newman: Spanish 9 10; Project X 10-12; SADD 10-12; Volleyball (mang.) 11; Theater 11-12; Speech and Debate 11; Athletic Trainer 9

David Nootens: Football 9 11; Wrestling 9, 12; NHS 11-12; German 12  
Gina Novakovich: Project X 11-12; NHS 11-12; Basketball 9-10; Volleyball 9  
Jennifer Novosel: Cross Country 9-12 (capt. 12); Track 9-12  
Joseph Michael O'Brien: Swimming 9-12; German 9-12; Project X 9; SADD 10  
Brian O'Hara



## What was your great escape? from school?

- 1** **downtown Chicago**  
Sam Kasmark
- 2** **Showplace 16**  
Kassia Groszewski
- 3** **Starbucks**  
Karen Larsen
- 4** **Borders**  
Molly White
- 5** **out to eat**  
Mallory McShane
- 6** **to a friend's house**  
Kurt Popovich
- 7** **lake houses**  
Mitch LaRock
- 8** **shopping**  
Samantha Mardyla
- 9** **amusement parks**  
Mark Knight
- 10** **beaches**  
Mimi Grozdanich

### bargain buyers

While shopping for clothes for Spirit Week, Sara Galante and Nisha Raiker, seniors, search for bargains at Goodwill. "Shopping was relaxing," Sara said. "It was fun to go with a group of friend just to get away from school for awhile." Shopping outside of school created an escape for many seniors.



**Pero Ogrizovich:** Golf 9-12; SADD 9-11; CEC 11-12; Project X 9; German 9-12; NHS 11-12  
**Chike Okolocha**  
**Stephen Ong:** Tennis 10-12; Swimming 9; Debate 9-12; NHS 11-12; Spanish 10-11; Academic Team 9-12; SADD 9-12  
**Kristen Pagan:** Soccer 9-12 (capt. 12); Basketball 9-12 (capt. 12); Track 9-12; Project X 11; SADD 11; NHS 11-12  
**Nicole Taylor Pakan:** Swimming 9-12; Track 9

**Nicholas Pantazis:** Football 12; Speech and Debate 10, 11; Spanish 10; Track 9  
**Eric Papesch:** Spanish 9-10  
**Lovelyn Kay Pastrana:** Band 9-12; Orchestra 10-12; Track 9-12; French 9-12 (treas. 12); NHS 12; Theater 12; Speech 10-12  
**Chiragkumar Patel**  
**Ian Miles Pavnick:** Football 9; Spanish 9-12





**Jessica Roberta Peach:** Girls' Track 9-10; Ensemble 10-12; African Drum 12; ASL 11-12  
**Colleen Pearman**  
**Annie Giulia Pellicciotti:** Spanish 10, 12; DECA 11; *Crier* 11; NHS 11-12; Project X 9-10, 12; SADD 10, 12  
**Jennifer Lynn Peng:** Orchestra 9-12 (Concertmaster, sec. 12); Project X 9, 11, SADD 10-12; Spanish 9-12; German 10-12; French 12; NHS 12  
**Alana Jean Phelan:** Basketball 9-10; Soccer 9; Project X 11; SADD 12



**Michelle J. Philipsborn:** Project X 9-12; SADD 11; Spanish 9-11; French 10-12; German 12  
**Blake Platt:** Baseball 9-12 (capt. 12); Cross Country 9-12 (capt. 12); NHS 11-12 (pres. 12); Wrestling 9; CEC 12  
**Molly Aliye Poczontek:** Swimming 9-12 (capt. 12); Track 9, 11; French 11, 12; Band 9-12  
**Kurt M. Popovich:** Spanish 9; DECA 9-11; Theater 9-12  
**Claudia Portillo:** Spanish 11-12; Art 12



**Amanda Puryear**  
**Anna Pycinska:** Project X 9-10; Swimming 9-12  
**Tim Qualls:** Football 9-11; Wrestling 9-12 (capt. 12); Track 9-12 (capt. 12); NHS 11-12, German 10-11  
**Talia Qureshi:** Tennis 10-12; NHS 11-12  
**Academic Team 11-12:** Spanish 10-11  
**Nisha Raiker:** Spanish 9, 11-12; Project X 9, 11; SADD 10-12; Speech 12; NHS 11-12; IU Honors Program 11, French 10-11



**David Ramirez:** Wrestling 10-12; Football 9-10; Baseball 9  
**Anisha Rastogi:** NHS 11-12 (sec. 12); Band 9-12; Ensembles 9-12; Speech 9-12; Theater 9-10  
**Suchita Rastogi:** Band 9-12; Theater 9-10; Speech and Debate 9-12; NHS 12  
**Kelly Rausch:** Band 9-12; Track 10; ASL 11; Swimming 9-11; Spanish 9; SADD 9  
**Jennifer Razez:** Speech and Debate 9, 12; French 10; Track 11



**Bailey Remec:** Soccer 9-11 (capt. 10); Spanish 9-10; NHS 11-12  
**Brian Ritz:** Baseball 9-12; NHS 11-12; French 9-12; Basketball 9  
**Ariana Rodriguez:** Academic Team 9-12 (capt. 11); NHS 11-12; French 9-12; Band 9-11; Orchestra 10-12; DECA 12; SADD 12; German 10-11; CEC 9-10; Art 9  
**Jennifer Nicole Romano:** Swimming 9-12; German 10-12; ASL 9-12 (treas. 12); Softball 9; Track 9  
**Alex Rosales:** Baseball 9-12; Football 9-11; NHS 11-12; French 9-12; Debate 11



**Danielle Roy**  
**Sarah Rubino:** Volleyball 10-11; Track 9-12; ASL 12; Cheerleading 9  
**Brandon Ruiz:** Basketball 9-12; Soccer 9-11; Spanish 11  
**John Ruiz:** Spanish 9; NHS 9  
**Bryan M. Sanders:** Baseball 9-12

Andru Sannito  
Miguel Santos  
Cody Sasek  
Brian Mark Schmidt: Soccer 9-12; Band 9-11  
Brandon Shweitzer: Band 9-10



Lindsey Schweitzer  
Amanda Scott: Soccer 9-12 (capt. 12); CEC 11-12 (treas. 12)  
Annie Seaman: Swimming 9-12; Track 9-12; German 11  
Belinda C. Sebenster: Art 9-12; German 9-12; Speech 9  
Neal Shah: Speech & Debate 9-11; NHS 11-12; Spanish 9-12; Academic Team 10-12



Colleen Kerry Shaw: Basketball 9-12; Volleyball 9-10  
Anna Sherron  
Ryan Shimala: Baseball 9-12; DECA 9-10; Auditorium Staff 9  
Mitchell Shlensky: Band 9-11  
Aleksandr Shmagranoff: Soccer 10-12; Track 9-12; French 9-12; NHS 12



Seth Siadak  
Leann Sikora: Band 9-12; Track 9; Dance Team 9  
Mubarak Singh: DECA 10-12  
Nolan Slifko: Football 9-12; Track 10; Student Govt. 9-10; DECA 9-12  
Jacob Smith: Wrestling 9-12 (capt. 11-12)



Zach Smith  
Erik Soeka: Football 9  
Steven Soeka: Football 9  
Emily Sojka: ASL 11-12 (pres. 12); Track 9-10; Nemanja Sosic: Speech & Debate 10; DECA 11



Alyssa Nicole Spungen: Cheerleading 9-10; Theater 9-12; Paragon 11  
Jeff Spyryka: Basketball 9-10; Baseball 9-12  
Jack A. Standley: Baseball 9-12  
Alex Stariha: Soccer 9-12 (capt. 12)  
Trevor Stewart



# jumpstart your career

## Colleen Pearman

attended Career Center

**What is the career you want to pursue?**

I want to be an Automotive Technician and go into business management in high performance engines.

**Why was the Career Center important?**

It threw you into the field. We did job shadows and career days where we met people and we got a lot of training.

**How will this help you in the future?**

It gave me the training and preparation I needed in that area.

**What are some qualities that you need to have for that career?**

You need people skills and knowledge about the field. A lot of kids just started the automotive field. It was harder for the new kids. They were confused because there was not a lot of individual training. You got thrown into the field so you either sank or swam.

## Jessica Peach

worked at St. Margaret's Hospital

**What is the career you want to pursue?**

I want to work in Radiology.

**Why did you choose Radiology?**

Radiology is interesting and it is different from what most people go into.

**Why was it important for you to work at the hospital?**

It gave me experience to know what I was getting myself into after college.

**on a tight leash**

Volunteering at the Humane Society, Breanne Lawler, senior, takes a dog out for a walk. "I found out that once you were 18 you could take the dogs out for walks in addition to doing other things like laundry or paper work," Breanne said.

**How will this help you in the future?** It helped me because it got my foot in the door to get a job.

**What are some qualities that you need to have for your career?** You have to be hard-working, responsible, and you need to have tolerance.

## Nick Gillund

worked at a fire department in Country Club Hills, IL

**What is the career you want to pursue?** Fireman. My uncle told me a lot of stories about it.

**Why did you choose to work at the fire department in Country Club Hills?**

They are higher paid, better trained and there was a lot more action.

**What are some qualities that you need to have for this career?**

You cannot be claustrophobic. You need the will to do it and you need to enjoy your job to its fullest. You also have to be able to think on your feet and think in stressful situations.

**What went through your mind when you went into a burning building?**

It depended on the objective. Whether it was putting out the fire or rescuing, I tried to do my best to complete each task.

**What requirements did you need?**

One year of training at Tinley Park Fire Academy, learn Basic Life Support (BLS), Technical Rescue, Awareness Rescue, and Hazmat (Hazardous Material) awareness.

**Nicholas Stoffregen:** Soccer 9-12 (capt. 12);

Student Govt. 9-12; NHS 11-12; Track 9

**Tabitha Strong:** NHS 11-12; Cross Country 10-12; Track 9-10; German 11; Ensemble 10-12; Theatre 9-12; SADD 12; Art 9; Speech & Debate 10-11

**Kyle Stuart:** Soccer 9-12 (capt. 12); Spanish 11;

French 11; SADD 11; NHS 11-12; Baseball 9

**Samantha Tantillo:** Tennis 9-12 (capt. 12);

French 9, 11-12

**Lauren Tanzillo:** Dance Team 9-12 (capt. 12);

NHS 11-12

**Matt Thompson:** Swimming 9-12 (capt. 12);

Student Govt. 11-12 (pres. 12); NHS 12;

Academic Team 9-12; Football 9-12; Track 10;

French 11-12; German 9-11

**Punam Tiwana**

Angela Toth: Volleyball 9-12 (capt. 12); French 12;

**Max Tratar:** Football 9-12

**Corey Trimolt**



# largerthanlife

## mostoverplayed songs

- Crank That-Soulja Boy
- Low-Flo Rida (featuring T-Pain)
- What Hurts The Most-Cascada
- Lollipop-Lil Wayne

*according to associatedcontent.com*

## top 5 songs

- 1 Roc Boys-Jay Z
- 2 A Few Words In Defense of Our Country-Randy Newman
- 3 Umbrella-Rihanna
- 4 D.A.N.C.E-Justin Timberlake
- 5 Four Winds-Bright Eyes

*according to rollingstone.com*

## top 3 concerts

- 1 Rihanna & Jay-Z Glow in the Dark Tour
- 2 Snoop Dogg & 311
- 3 John Mayer

*according to Billboard.com*

### music notes

Searching through flyers at Guitar Center, Jacob Gerber, senior, looks for local music festivals coming to the area. "I went to [music festivals] to listen to my favorite bands and to meet new people," Jacob said. Jason considered the Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival in Manchester, TN, featuring Pearl Jam, Metalica, Kayne West and BB King, among others, a summer highlight. "It was a once in a lifetime chance to see someone who you never thought would play again, who you thought you'd never get a chance to see."



Jenna Tritsch: SADD 9-10; ASL 11-12; NHS 11-12;  
Project X 10-11; Tennis 9-10; Cheerleading 9  
Jeff Vallese  
Steven Vases  
Brittani Ann Vasquez: Project X 9; Theatre 9  
Gregory Velasquez: Football 9-12 (capt. 12);  
Wrestling 11-12 (capt. 12); NHS 12



Matie Velasquez: Cheerleading 9-12  
George Vezmar: Speech & Debate 9; Soccer 9-10;  
Spanish 9-10  
Kathryn Grace Wadas: Band 9-12; Theater 9-12  
(pres. 12, vice pres. 11); Speech & Debate 9-12;  
African Drum 10-12; Thespian 10-12; IU Honors  
11; NHS 11-12  
Kelly Erin Wade: Volleyball 9-12; Student Govt.  
9; Tennis 10  
Meghan Walker





## yourfavoritesongs

"Lollipop"—Lil Wayne

**Sonny Marcetic**

"Staple Gunned"—The Spilled Canvas

**Bernadette Bowen**

"Ice Monster"—Minus the Bear

**Felipe Hernandez**

### listen and learn

On the web, Megan Bonke, senior, searches for her favorite artists. "I don't like a lot of mainstream, new music," Megan said. "But I went to music stores a lot to listen to what was out there."

"Golden Skan"—The Klaxons

**Roberto Rumbolo**

"Over You"—Daughtry

**Angela Hehn**

"See You Again"—Miley Cyrus

**Sabrina Brown**

"Life Is A Highway"—Rascal Flatts

**Marko Sretenovic**

"Next Episode"—Snoop Dogg & Dr.

**Dre**

**Trevor Alexander**

100 seniors surveyed  
May 6



**Kevin C. Watson:** Football 9; Wrestling 10  
**Julianne Watterson:** Speech & Debate 9-12;  
Theater 9-12; *Paragon* 11; NHS 11-12; Cross  
Country 10; Track 9  
**Mary Webber:** Envirothon 9-10; Theater 9-12;  
Speech 11-12; NHS 11-12; Ensembles 11-12  
**Michael Akinwale Wey:** Soccer 9-11  
**Molly White:** Spanish 9-10; African Drum 9-10;  
Theater 9-12; Speech & Debate 9-12; Ensembles  
10-11; NHS 12

**Lazarick Lavonne Whitlock Jr.:** Project X 9-12;  
Track 9-12; SADD 10-12; CEC 11; NHS 11-12;  
Student Govt. 12; DECA 10; Spanish 9  
**Debbie Wilczynski:** Cheerleading 9-12 (capt.  
12); ASL 12 (treas.); Cross Country 9; Project X  
9; Track 9-10  
**Blake Williams:** Cross Country 9-12 (capt. 12);  
Track 9-12 (capt. 12); Project X 9-12; Spanish 10-  
12; NHS 11-12; CEC 11-12; SADD 12; Basketball  
9; Co-Valedictorian  
**Christopher Witter:** Speech & Debate 10-12;  
DECA 11-12; Academic Team 11-12; Soccer 9-10  
**Timothy Yee:** Soccer 9-11; Track 9-12; Spanish 9-  
12 (pres. 12); Speech & Debate 9-12, 11; Honors  
11; NHS 11-12

**Nick Minkyu Yi:** Football 9-11; Orchestra 9-12;  
Track 10-11; Diving 12; Art 12; NHS 12  
**Meagan Marie Yothment:** Band 9-12; Drum  
Major 10-12; Orchestra 10-11; Track 10, 12;  
Speech & Debate 10-12 (vice pres. 12) NHS 11-  
12; African Drum 12; Spanish 9-10; Softball 9  
**Brittany Lynn Zehner:** Dance Team 10-12; ASL  
12  
**Steve Zelenika**  
**Feras Ziad Ziadat**

**Lindsey Ziemba:** Volleyball 9-12; Student  
Govt. 9; Track 9-10; German 11; Art 12  
**Amanda Zimmerman:** German 9; Spanish 9-12;  
SADD 9-12; Track 10; CEC 10; Theater 12  
**Julie Ann Zivich:** Spanish 9-12; Track 9-12;  
Project X 9-12; German 10-12; Cross Country  
10-12; SADD 10-12 (vice pres. 12); NHS 11-12;  
French 12

Ryanne Abraham  
Michael Adams  
Alyssa Adcock  
Casey Aerts  
Jose Aguilar  
Guadalupe Alanis  
Marcus Alfonsi  
Sara Ambry



Brandon Anderson  
Colleen Anderson  
Hannah Anderson  
Fabian Arteaga  
Christina Ayerinos  
Celeste Avina  
Anthony Aversman  
Philip Baker



Stephanie Baker  
Corey Bandura  
Katie Banks  
Eric Barth  
Robert Bateman  
Justin Berg  
Alison Bergmann  
Jessica Biestek



Anthony Bissonnette  
Adam Bobeck  
Brittney Boender  
Carli Bolanowski  
Jasmine Booker  
Edyta Borowicz  
Christina Boswell  
Ian Boswell



Janelle Boudreau  
Matthew Boyan  
Nicholas Bozich  
Britney Breger  
Garrett Broadnax  
Abbey Brokop  
Leah Brousalis  
Nick Brown



Cara Bruzan  
Austin Bubash  
Zachary Bucholtz  
Stephanie Bugis  
Katherine Burns  
Thomas Bustalino  
Danielle Cacich  
Mark Cady



Stephanie Campana  
Justin Campbell  
Sandra Campos  
Sara Cap  
Leah Carey  
Karina Chavez  
James Cherrier  
Mythili Chintamani



Vincent Ciccone  
Matthew Cipich  
Brice Clark  
Gregory Clark  
Taylor Compton  
Lindsey Conger  
Phoebe Conner  
Joshua Cooper



Vanessa Cordova  
Gabriela Cornejo  
Kyle Consiglia  
Andrew Covert  
John Crisman  
Kindon Crowder  
Ryan Cusick  
Andrea Damore



# littlethings that matter big

**Matt Vlasich:** Jewel (started October 2007)

**Q Why did you choose to work at Jewel?**

It was close to my home and it just happened to be one of the places I applied to.

**Q How did you manage school and other activities with work?**

I would always try and finish as much of my homework as I could before I left school and I really banked on Study Hall. Sometimes work got in the way, but there were gaps to get things done in.

**Q How often did you work? For how long?**

I worked 3-4 days a week, 12-16 hours usually in shifts of 4.5, or 6 hours.

**Q If you worked on the weekends, did you still find time to hang out with friends?**

There was definitely time for friends on the weekends. I usually worked early on the weekends like 10 a.m.- 2 p.m., which gave me the entire day to hang out with my friends.



Debarshi Das  
Sidarth Dasari  
Eric Debarge  
Jessica Deboer  
Allison DeGeorge  
Andrea Dell Aquila  
Daya Devanathan  
Jessica Deyoung

Tony Dicostanzo  
Sean Dillner  
Tanya Djuric  
Ariana Dremonas  
Cassandra Drillas  
Courtney Drobac  
Mark Duda  
Mark Dye

Kyle Dytrych  
Margaret Eagan  
Lisa Ebel  
Micheal Eden  
Adrian Edmond  
Tess Edvardsen  
Emily Ellison  
Adrian Eloisa

Elyse Estes  
Lorien Estes  
Aaron Estrada  
Marco Estrada  
Greg Felhaus  
Jeffrey Feliszak  
Erick Ferrer  
Daniel Filic



# little things that matter big

## What separated this year from previous years?

"You had to put in all the hours of studying and doing homework. Homework was actually crucial this year to make the grade."

**Michelle Ratner**

"The classes were a lot harder. There was a lot more homework and tests were more difficult. Some days I would have about four tests. It was draining."

**Jessica Kitchell**

"The homework. It was hard to get done and there was a lot, it was a big part of your grade."

**Nicholas Van Wieren**

"There were a lot of different classes and a new volume of work. AP classes were difficult and you had more homework. Tests determined your grade and there were a lot."

**Grant Williams**

## hours of homework per day on a regular basis

one 43%

four 7%

two 28%

five 4%

three 13% six or more 5%

100 students surveyed  
May 6

### take an oath

Dressed as Pearl, the estranged daughter in *The Scarlet Letter*, Sarah Wachala, junior, takes an oath during mock trials in Mrs. Renee Kouris' Honors English class. "It was fun, but it took awhile to prepare for," Sarah said.



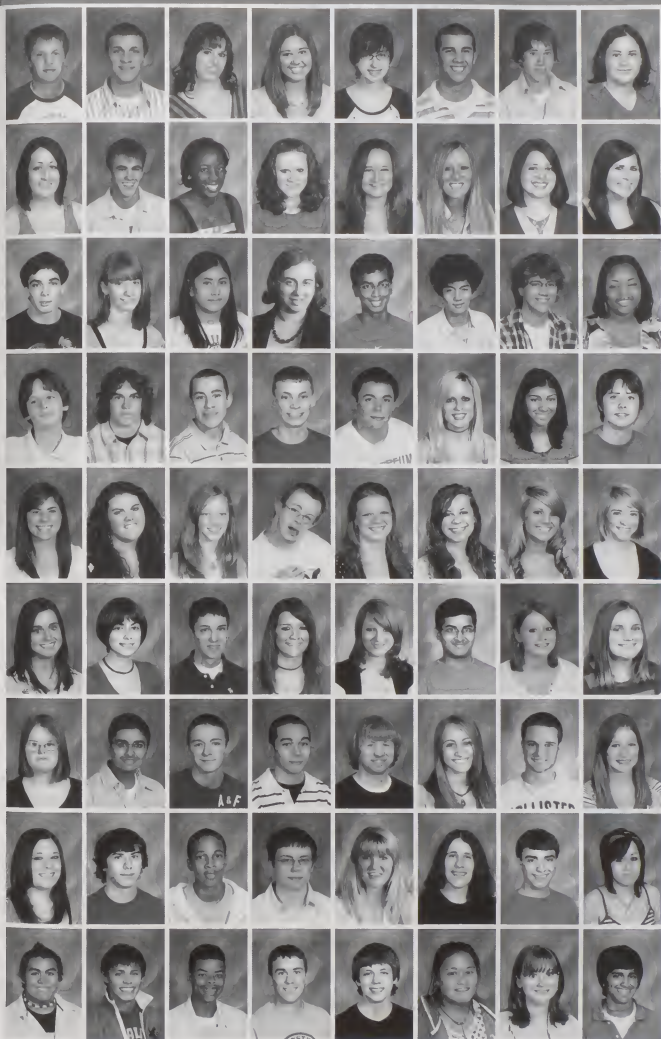
Leigh Fimbianti  
Elizabeth Fisher  
Seth Flahaven  
Kaitlyn Flores  
Larry Ford  
Edward Fox  
Kyle Fox  
Andrew Frye

Madison Gallegos  
David Garcia  
Daniel Gardner  
Matthew Gaskey  
Breanna Gates  
Matthew Gehrig  
Amanda Gehring  
Sean Georgas

Phillip Gittens  
Stephanie Gober  
Kayle Goldsmith  
Matthew Gonzalez  
Matthew Goodman  
Adam Goodwin  
Goutham Gopal  
Cannon Grimmer

Terry Grunewald  
Brittany Guy  
Kimberly Hajduch  
Heather Hajduk  
Megan Hammermeister  
Ryan Hammermeister  
Jason Han  
Mitchell Hanak





Graham Hanas  
Ethan Hansen  
Marilyn Hansen  
Lindsay Hayes  
Grace Heaney  
Thomas Hecimovich  
Evan Heintz  
Mary Herald

Malissa Hernandez  
Billy Heuer  
Mary Hill  
Katie Hluska  
Taylor Hodges  
Lori Hoffmann  
Erin Holt  
Courtney Hoyle

Kevin Hughes  
Emily Imrich  
Libertine Iragana  
Kathleen Isaacs  
Daniel Jayakar  
Robin Jiang  
Douglas Johnson  
Clara Jones

Olga Jovanovic  
Matthew Kaiser  
Kevin Kalemba  
Joshua Kaszkur  
Thomas Kenzel  
Kelly Kerner  
Aava Khatiwada  
David Kiesling

Laura Kinser  
Elle Kirby  
Jessica Kitchell  
Timothy Klisser  
Katie Kocsis  
Jessica Koetteritz  
Jillian Koselke  
Sophie Koutos

Alex Kouklakis  
Alexa Koultourides  
Michael Kozlowski  
Rachel Kralun  
Brianna Krajewski  
Nithun Krishnan  
Sara Krolak  
Kathryn Krull

Kristen Kruska  
Arjun Kumar  
Marcin Kuzma  
Baudelio Larios  
Gregory Lautz  
Taylor Lee  
Kurt Leeney  
Elizabeth Leslie

Katelin Lewandowski  
Brian Lewis  
Daniel Linnear  
Noah Lipinski  
Jamie Lissy  
Joseph Longawa  
Brandon Lopez  
Gwen Lopez

Manuel Lopez  
Ray Lopez  
Albie Louis  
Jeff Lucas  
Andrew Mack  
Jillian Magsaysay  
Andrea Manchak  
Viraj Maniar

Patricia Martin  
Joe Martinez  
Sarah Matthies  
Laura Matula  
Adam Mayer  
Jade McDonald  
Tessa McGuane  
Alex McGuire

Michael McIntyre  
Patrick McIntyre  
Ryan McIntyre  
Amanda Merlos  
Samuel Metz  
Gregory Meyer  
Daniel Meyers  
Toni Michalski

Shawn Michel  
Morgan Midkiff  
Martha Mihich  
Jordan Milne  
Katrina Minton  
Stephanie Mirabelli  
Katie Miraglia  
Matas Mockus

Christian Moffitt  
Ashley Monos  
Melina Moreno  
Nicholas Morfas  
Chloe Morgan  
Kylie Morris  
Erin Moss  
Amanda Mota

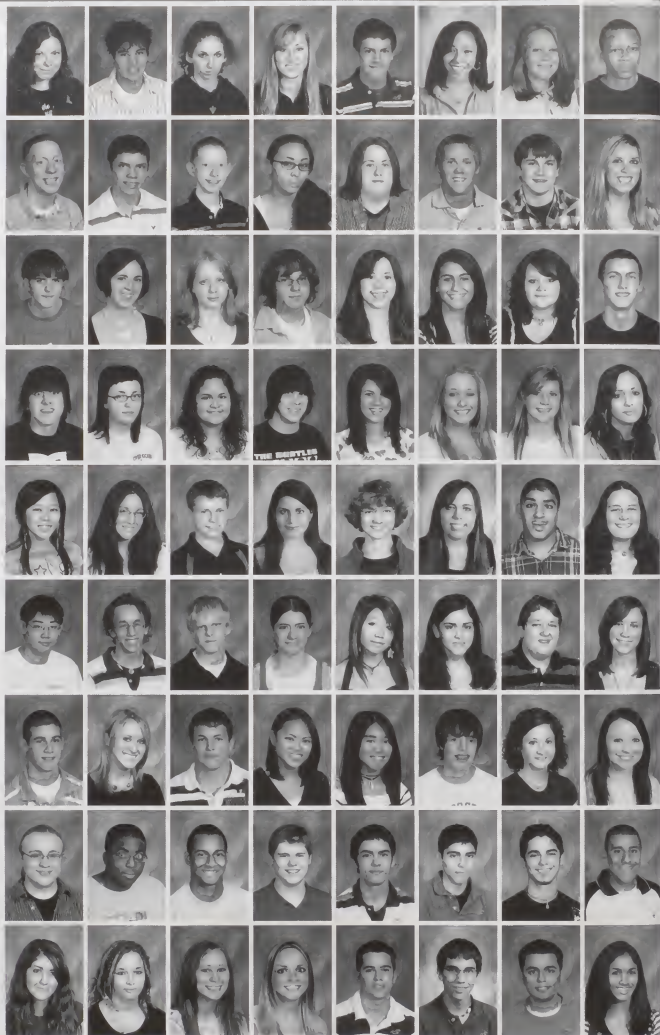
Ding Muangmingsuk  
Samantha Muczynski  
Evan Mudronick  
Lana Muhrez  
Justin Mulesa  
Michele Murday  
Anas Muslien  
Sarah Mustain

Takehito Nakagawa  
Eric Neiner  
Matthew Nelson  
Allison Newman  
Lananh Nguyen  
Alicia Nieves  
Anthony Norris  
Ashley Norris

Kevin Nossem  
Jessica Novotney  
Nick Nowaczyk  
Rose Nowicki  
Rachel Nowinski  
Matthew Noworyta  
Anjelica O'Brien  
Brianna O'Connor

Kenneth O'Drobinak  
Obinna Okolocha  
Federico Olaoeibikan  
Tanner Ollo  
Steven Ondo  
Adrian Onelas  
Jordan Orr  
Martin Ortiz

Micela Ossanna  
Madeliene Oswald  
Heather Paarlberg  
Katherine Pack  
Kenneth Pannell  
Dudley Paquette  
Kush Patel  
Shivani Patel





# little things that matter big no more class rank

Superintendent Mr. William J. Pfister approved the class rank removal administrative guideline April 14. Class Rank Committee members found that ranking students hurt college admissions and deterred students from taking on extracurriculars and classes in which they have an interest.

## Details

- Grade point average (GPA) will be computed to the second decimal place (not fourth)
- Eligibility for "Highest Honors," "High Honors" and "Honors" will be determined by GPAs for the first seven semesters
- Students must maintain designated GPA for first 12 weeks of eighth semester to receive award recognition at Commencement
- Those who do not maintain the required GPA will receive the next lowest recognition listed

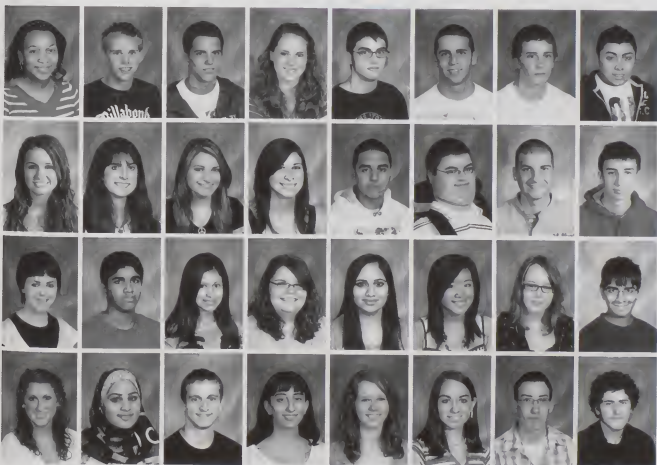
## Solely for Class of 2009

- Valedictorian and Salutatorian, based on GPAs for the first seven semesters, will be recognized at Commencement
- Valedictorian: student with highest GPA; all students with that GPA will be declared Co-Valedictorians
- Salutatorian: student with the second highest GPA; all students with that GPA will be declared Co-Salutorians
- Valedictorian and Salutatorian awards will be eliminated after Class of 2009

## time to monopolize

Eyes on the competition, Matt Goodman, junior, tries to relax during a game of monopoly in AP U.S. History. "Playing games alleviated your stress level. It gave you a break from everything that was going on," Matt said. When

it came to class rank Matt realized it would become a permanent break. "When I found out about the removal of class rank I was mad. I felt I had worked hard to get that recognition. I realized that it wasn't going to hurt me because most colleges don't look at that."



S. Paige Patterson  
Max Peck  
Manuel Peralta  
Ann Perz  
Michael Phillips  
Demetrios Pitsas  
Ethan Poppa  
Joseph Porras

Amanda Porter  
Sarah Posey  
Leslie Poulos  
Stephanie Poulos  
Omar Prado  
Michael Pudlow  
Mitchell Pugh  
Matthew Pukoszsek

Kristen Pulley  
Tariq Quadeer  
Valen Ramirez  
Melissa Kangel  
Ambika Rao  
Sara Sasamimari  
Michelle Ratner  
Abhinav Ravi

Nicole Raynor  
Sameera Raziuddin  
Adam Rhoda  
Roberta Ricchio  
Jennifer Ridder  
Shannon Riley  
Steven Riley  
Eric Roach



# little things that matter big

**lug nuts**  
**don't fall**  
**far from the tree**  
from beaters to prized possessions,  
juniors take to the road

## AJ Spolnik

**year**  
1997  
**color**  
black and chrome  
**cost for gas**  
\$100; 10 miles/gallon  
**ownership**  
himself

## 'The Black Pearl'

**make/model**  
Dodge Ram 2500  
**cost**  
hand me down  
**best part of the truck**  
too many good things  
**love for the truck**  
passion for it and  
I can go mudding

## Alex Kouklakis

**year**  
2008  
**make/model**  
Gran Turismo  
Maserati  
**color**  
blue  
**cost**  
approximately  
\$110,000  
**cost for gas**  
\$60 if not more  
**ownership**  
mom  
**best part of the car**  
all the looks  
people give you

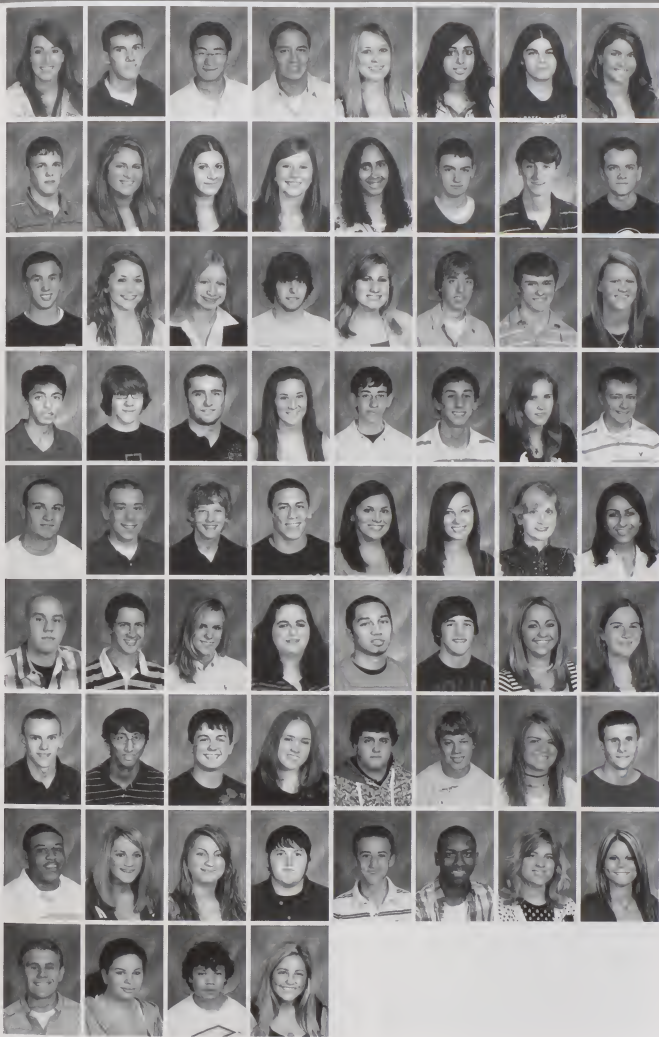


Sarah Roberts  
Danica Rodriguez  
John Rogowski  
Jenna Roller  
Sarah Roque  
Jessica Rosiak  
Brienne Rubesha  
Krstie Ruiz

Stephanie Ruiz  
Jason Rutkowski  
Rachel Rutkowski  
Mary Ann Rutledge  
Diana Saez  
George Samaan  
Mary Sandrick  
Breck Scarnavack

Elizabeth Schuhler  
Aaron Schwartz  
Tyler Schwartz  
Stephanie Sepiol  
Dina Sergiyenko  
Matthew Shacklett  
Supriya Shah  
Sam Shaner





Rebecca Shapiro  
Keith Shaw  
Stephen Shih  
Matthew Shreve  
Lynnee Shutka  
Rima Siddiqui  
Molly Skaggs  
Stephanie Skrtich

Paul Skoglund  
Molly Sliwa  
Aleksandra Slijivar  
Emilee Smith  
Samantha Smith  
Jonathan Sobilo  
Patrick Speranza  
Curtis Spicer

Andrew Spolnik  
Megan Stacy  
Holly Stevens  
Matthew Stewart  
Elizabeth Stone  
Brett Strohl  
Rory Swafford  
Jamie Swing

Robert Syler  
Nathan Szany  
Ben Taylor  
Shelby Taylor  
Steven Taylor  
Jacob Tepperman  
Christina Terry  
Dakota Thompson

Jerrett Tite  
Zachary Todd  
Sean Tomazin  
Joseph Torres  
Rachael Trevino  
Molly Tribou  
Rachel Trotman  
Neelam Vachhan

Nicholas Van Wieren  
Benjamin Varnum  
Katherine Verkuuse  
Melissa Vetrano  
Jadd Villalobos  
Matthew Vlasich  
Amy Vogel  
Sarah Wachala

Zach Wallar  
Rohan Warriar  
Ryan Watrobka  
Melissa Webber  
Kurt Webster  
Alex Welch  
Allison Welch  
Andrew White

Johnathan White  
Emily Whiting  
Eryn Whiting  
Adam Wible  
Grant Williams  
James Willis  
Jordan Wojtowich  
Kelly Wold

Austin Wynn  
Erin Wysocki  
Andre Yanez  
Olivia Yates

Epaninondas Agepoulos  
 Laura-Alyssa Aguilar  
 Alexandra Aguirre  
 Kurt Alberson  
 Ashley Alexander  
 Larry Allen  
 Vincent Alo  
 Sara Altgiblers

Jacqueline Alvarado  
 Myles Ambrosini  
 Bria Anderson  
 Katherine Andreatos  
 Billy Andrews  
 Bradley Armour  
 Catherine Bacha  
 Kayla Bachert

Karl Bacoyanis  
 Ben Balasia  
 Haley Barfoot  
 Daniel Bazan  
 Emily Becher  
 Joseph Belkairous  
 Morgan Bell  
 Mary Benman

Robert Bergen  
 Nikhil Bhagwat  
 Zac Blackstone  
 Alexandra Blanchard  
 Alyssia Blatsioris  
 David Blumberg  
 Katherine Bobek  
 Alisa Bochnowski

John Bochnowski  
 Clint Boelt  
 Drew Bogs  
 Christopher Bonessa  
 Joseph Bonessa  
 Cristina Bonini  
 Alicia Bookwood  
 Bethany Borgo

Ellie Boston  
 Brittney Boyd  
 Colleen Boyle  
 Co-Juan Bradley  
 Brandon Bragg  
 Kristin Brajak  
 Matthew Brozovic  
 Joel Brumm

Thomas Burgwald  
 Ashley Burton  
 Aaron Caldwell  
 Christopher Camacho-Munoz  
 Anthony Campana  
 Sara Campbell  
 Sava Canak  
 Matthew Cantu

Michael Cap  
 Alyssa Capizzani  
 Deirdre Capriglione  
 Kyle Carey  
 Sean Carey  
 Maritza Carlos  
 Shelby Carlson  
 Adam Carroll

Fernando Carvajal  
 Erica Case  
 Michael Caselton  
 Jessica Castillo-Rivera  
 Rachel Ceja  
 Divya Chauhan  
 David Chen  
 Emily Chen



quick  
type

Texting demands its own language. Common short words to get the point across include

**afc** - away from computer  
**afk** - away from keyboard  
**b4** - before  
**bbl** - be back later  
**btw** - by the way  
**brb** - be right back  
**cmt** - comment  
**gtg/g2g** - got to go  
**idc** - I don't care  
**idk** - I don't know  
**imo** - in my opinion  
**jk** - just kidding  
**lol** - laugh out loud  
**omg** - oh my gosh  
**pwn** - own  
**rofl** - rolling on floor laughing  
**tyl** - talk to you later

## chat time

During lunch, Allison Skimehorn and Ben Perkins, sophomores, sit and talk with each other in the Commons. "I think that we used common slang every day," Allison said. "There were some slang terms that some used over others." Allison, like many students, did not use typical online slang terms in conversation.



Jacob Cherogan  
 GW Childs  
 Alexander Choi  
 Yena Choi  
 Reahna Christopher  
 Joseph Clabaugh  
 Rachel Colias  
 Aaron Cooper

Aleksandra Coric  
 Alex Coyle  
 Murray Crabtree  
 Ellen Crilly  
 Donna Crozier  
 Samuel Cummings  
 Kara Curosh  
 Travis Dade

Nina Damjanovich  
 Michael Damore  
 Vivek Dasari  
 Eddie DeCero  
 Ricky Decker  
 Kavita Dedania  
 Jose Delgado  
 Samantha Delgado



## What's the best way to socialize?

"Texting was nice, but people could take a text the wrong way. You could understand someone's words better when you talked in person rather than just reading a text."

**Samantha Flynn**

"For me, talking on the phone, because the phone was always there. It was easier to just pick up the phone and talk to my friends."

**Alex Flemming**

"I preferred to text with my friends. It was faster than just talking in person, and I could multi-task while I texted. Plus, there were no awkward silences when you texted?"

**Tony Campana**

"Talking in person [was the best way to socialize] because you could describe things better in person and communicate better with your friends."

**Kyle Carey**

"MySpace was the best way to socialize with friends because it was more fun than talking [in person] or texting. I just preferred to talk to them that way."

**Vincent Alo**

"Texting was the best way to socialize because everybody did it. It was the fastest way to communicate between friends."

**Haley Barfoot**

**common denominator**  
While sitting in the Commons, sophomores Kara McShane and Rachel Morrow talk to friends, Olivia and Emily Koufos, freshmen, after school while waiting for a ping pong match. Some students found talking in person a better way to socialize rather than just texting or talking on the phone.

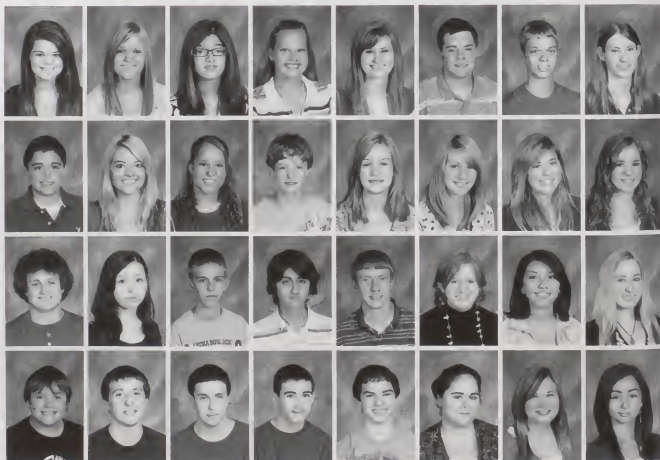


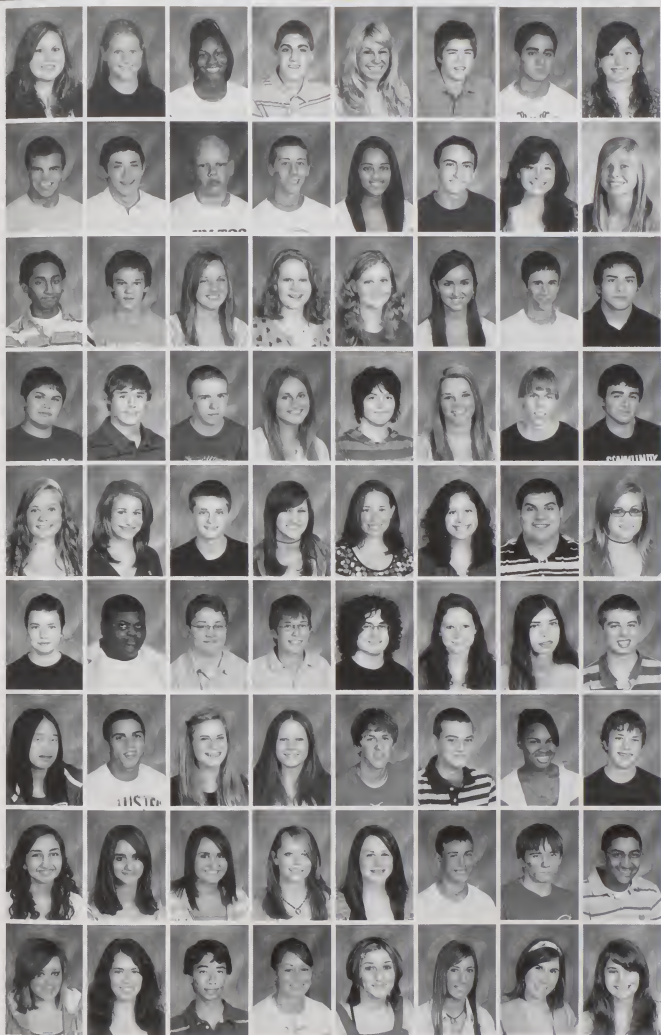
Cassandra Diederich  
Paige Dillman  
Alyssa Djuric  
Katie Dobis  
Alexandria Doctor  
Michael Doherty  
Craig Dohman  
Anna Dorn

Michael Dovellos  
Katlynn Doyle  
Mary Drzich  
Matthew Dublak  
Stephanie Dwers  
Samantha Eanes  
Sarah Eldert  
Elodie Enger

Michael Erwin  
Mariana Esparza  
Patrick Fagan  
Khashayar Farhadi  
Matthew Farrell  
Ximena Fernandez De Co  
Maggie Figueroa  
Ariel Fischer

John Fissinger  
Robert Fleener  
Alexander Fleming  
Cullan Fleming  
Logan Flores  
Stephanie Flowers  
Samantha Flynn  
Karina Fonseca





Kathryn Frakes  
Carrie Frank  
Whitney Freeman  
Brian Fultman  
Jillian Gadzala  
Jack Gallagher  
Fabian Garcia  
Rosalba Garibay

Johnathon Gaskill  
Max Gershman  
Chris Gill  
Justin Gill  
Ravneet Girm  
Benjamin Goldenberg  
Camille Gonzalez  
Jessica Goodrich

Pradeep Gopal  
Kyle Gouwens  
Natalie Gouwens  
Emma Grdina  
Julia Groszek  
Jelena Cruzdanich  
Daniel Grubisich  
Adrian Gutierrez

Marko Gvero  
Matthew Hale  
William Hamann  
Rachel Hannigan  
Michael Hanus  
Kristin Harker  
Miles Hastings  
Drake Hauflaire

Madolyn Hedin  
Rachael Heiniger  
Kevin Heinrich  
Margaret Ileneghan  
Robyn Hennig  
Anueliese Hernandez  
Jason Hero  
Amanda Herr

Mellisa Higgins  
Tamar Hill  
Matthew Hirsch  
Christopher Hlebasko  
Michael Hlista  
Rachel Hluska  
Lily Homeyer  
Robert Howard

Shelby Hsiao  
Anthony Huard  
Allie Hurwich  
Grace Ispas  
Thomas Jenkins  
Michael Jerge  
Alysse Johnson  
Daniel Johnson

Behnoosh Kamali  
Shirin Kamalipour  
Devon Kazmer  
Lindsey Kitchell  
Elisabeth Klisser  
Travis Kmetz  
Gregory Kobus  
Neil Kondamuri

Danielle Kostial  
Kristina Kovach  
Joseph Krupa  
Lesley Krasiejnski  
Jillian Kulesa  
Lyndsey Kunz  
Hannah Kurowski  
Jessica Kwasniewski

Stephen Kwolek  
 Petar Lalic  
 Brittany Lapa  
 Christina Lee  
 Melissa Lee  
 Jacob Lehmann  
 Jillian Leslie  
 Patrick Leuser



Bradley Lewis  
 Troy Lolkema  
 Amy Lucas  
 Andrew Lucas  
 Joshua Lukoshus  
 Meagan Lynch  
 William Mach  
 Teresa Magallanes



Angelina Mandic  
 Taylor Marcus  
 Joanna Marinakos  
 Brigid Marriott  
 Alexander Martell  
 Sandra Martinez  
 Joseph Matz  
 Brittany Maul



Lauren McGill  
 Mark McKechnie  
 Matthew McNicholas  
 Kara McShane  
 Kaitlyn Melder  
 Andy Mendoza  
 Marisa Meneghetti  
 Kathryn Merritt



Cody Michniewicz  
 Nikola Mileusnic  
 Kaitlin Miller  
 Kristie Miller  
 Garrett Mintz  
 Shane Miraglia  
 Christopher Mitchell  
 Renae Miyashiro



Michele Monagan  
 Victoria Montejano  
 Nicole Montella  
 Tammy Montella  
 Erin Montgomery  
 Lindsay Moore  
 Paul Moran  
 Keifer Morgan



Rachel Morrow  
 Makaela Moyer  
 Hunter Muckel  
 Ravinder Multani  
 Chantel Munsey  
 Angel Murillo  
 Vincent Murphy  
 Kellie Nadratowski



Christine Nau  
 Joseph Navarro  
 Jordan Newman  
 Shaye Notebloom  
 Jay Novatny  
 Kyle O'Brien  
 Patrick O'Brien  
 Jessica O'Hara



Gail Oesterle  
 Namik Oner  
 Alexander Ostoich  
 Ryan Otto  
 Katherine Palmer  
 Danielle Panizzo  
 Rushi Parikh  
 Alexander Parobek



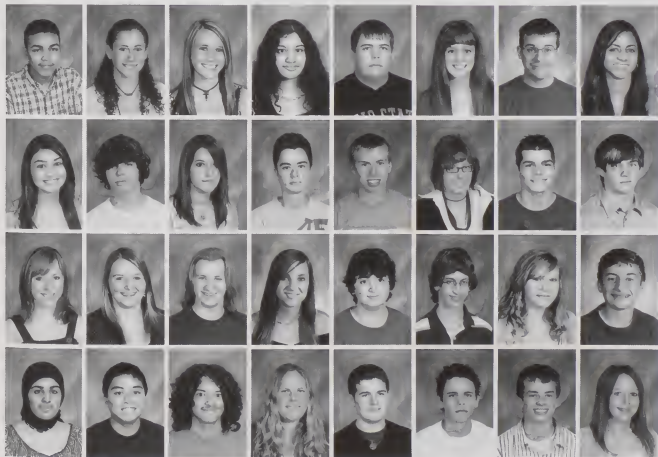
## top 10 games

- 1 Halo 3
- 2 The Orange Box
- 3 Rock Band
- 4 Super Mario Galaxy
- 5 Bioshock
- 6 Call of Duty 4: Modern Warfare
- 7 The Legend of Zelda: Phantom Hourglass
- 8 Mass Effect
- 9 Ace Combat 6: Fires of Liberation
- 10 God of War 2

[www.time.com](http://www.time.com)

### lean with it

While playing Mario Kart Wii, Bennie Vassallo, sophomore, leans as he maneuvers his character with the Wii remote. "I liked to play video games all the time," Bennie said. "It gave me something to do with my friends. We would hang over at someone's house and just play them for hours."



Antonio Pasos  
Christina Pasyk  
Holly Patton  
Heena Patwari  
Daniel Paulson  
Lauren Pazik  
Dustin Pendrick  
Dezerae Penning

Karina Perez  
Benjamin Perkins  
Jennifer Peters  
Milan Petrovich  
Michael Phipps  
Lorissa Pietruszka  
Thomas Poulos  
Alexander Powell

April Pranske  
Gabrielle Pressley  
Kyle Pucalik  
Madison Quenzler  
Ryan Radbel  
Armando Ramirez  
Gabrielle Rapin  
Patrick Raycroft

Sophia Raziuddin  
Jeremiah Razon  
Christopher Reba  
Nicole Reinsma  
Clarke Remmers  
Thomas Rindoks  
Kylc Ritz  
Chelsea Roach



"My mom and I shared a plan together, and I had unlimited texting. It helped us save a lot of money because unlimited ended up being a better deal in the end. It made a lot more sense than just paying for 1000 texts for certain amount of time."

Erin Montgomery

"I always went over my bill and end up getting grounded for it. I was always on the phone and depending on who I was talking to, I'd talk for hours. Sometimes I waited until later to call during my free minutes to try to prevent going over my bill. It helped a lot."

Lorissa Pietruszka

## bill tips

- 1 limit amount of texts throughout the day
- 2 talk to friends when minutes are free
- 3 limit the amount of time you talk
- 4 use a land line while at home instead
- 5 avoid unnecessary and costly extras
- 6 keep free games already on phone
- 7 combine or drop lines
- 8 apply for automatic bill pay to avoid late fees
- 9 get a plan with only minutes you'll use
- 10 get rid of services you don't use

### budget breaker

With her eyes downward, Camille Rodriguez, sophomore, texts one of her friends. "Texting was an easy way to communicate with friends," Camille said. "The price didn't really matter to me too much. I texted all the time." Texting proved to rack up the cell phone bill for students.

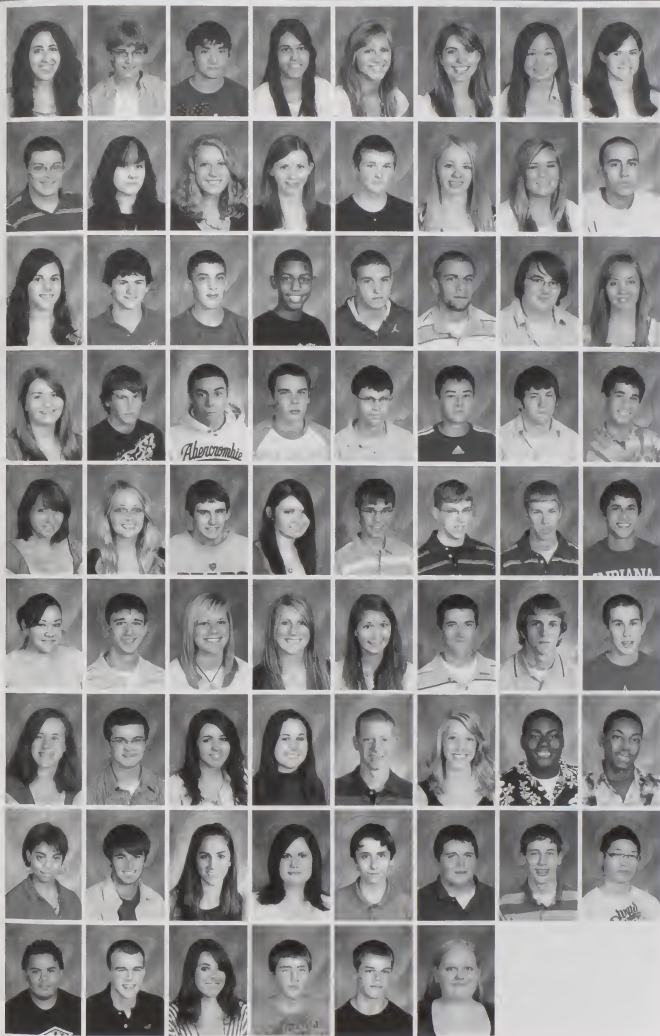


Robert Roach  
Angel Robles  
Camille Rodriguez  
Nicole Rodriguez  
Amanda Rogers  
Jennifer Rooth  
Kristi Roser  
Sarah Rosser

Taylor Roy  
Nada Sabbah  
Robert Sakelaris  
Alyssa Salata  
Leslie Salisbury  
Thomas Sanders  
Emily Saucedo  
Kelly Schlotman

Ellen Schwarz  
Molly Scott  
Danielle Scully  
Anup Segu  
Jessica Seligman  
Vanessa Sepiol  
Niyati Shah  
Reena Shah





Julia Shlensky  
Michael Siano  
Christopher Sicinski  
Ruha Siddiqui  
Sarah Sikora  
Katie Silaj  
Jennifer Silverman  
Sarah Skertic

Matthew Skiba  
Allison Skimehorn  
Kristen Slaboski  
Andrea Slamkowski  
Justin Slosser  
Emily Speckman  
Kelli Spurlock  
Mason Staniszewski

Kristen Starceovich  
Joshua Steinberg  
Ryan Stiffler  
Sheldon Suggs  
Alex Surma  
Ian Svoboda  
Zachary Swetlik  
Deanna Sylvester

Danielle Szumlas  
Dylan Tabor  
Richard Tabor  
Shane Tabor  
Evan Tomczak  
Tetsuo Toyama  
Grant Traxler  
Zachary Tritsch

Emily Turner  
Ines Tzolov  
Chad Van Deursen  
Lauren Van Dommelen  
Joshua Van Kleeck  
Bennie Vassallo  
Michael Vassallo  
Zachary Vega

Samantha Villareal  
Alexander Vlahu  
Bailey Voss  
Courtney Wagner  
Kelsey Warda  
Kyle Ware  
Kevin Watterson  
Simon Webb

Lexi Westerfield  
Brandon White  
Sarah Whiting  
Stacey Wierman  
Ryan Wilkinson  
Elaine Williams  
Joseph Willis  
Joshua Willis

Denise Wilson  
Flijah Wilson  
Mallory Wisotsky  
Chloe Witter  
Joshua Wojcik  
Bogusz Wozniak  
Joseph Wulf  
Hao Ye

Adrian Yeppez  
Joshua Yokovich  
Krista Zagar  
Tomasz Zembrowski  
Sean Ziemba  
Lisa Zurck

# littlebigmen

## fast facts

227 boys 212 girls

shortest names **John Ford**  
**Yang Hong**  
**Ben Jones**  
**Kevin Lee**  
**Brian Ong**  
**Luke Pena**

longest name **Natalia Fernandez-de-Cordova**

oldest boy **Jacob Switzer** 9/22/91

oldest girl **Tara Smith** 12/1/91

youngest boy **John-Paul Stephens** 10/5/93

youngest girl **Yasemin Oner** 11/1/93

tallest **Ricardo Carbajal** 6'5

shortest **Larissa Fisher** 4'11

## guess what

"I had 72 bunnies?"  
**Megha Kumar**

"I was born in India?"  
**Aaditya Shah**

"I am afraid of peacocks. When I was at the zoo a peacock chased me and my parents just stood there and laughed."

**Gigi Chioros**

"I got up at 5 a.m. because I had a Bible study class."

**Adrienne Ault**

"I have a job at a car place sanding down Mustangs."  
**Patrick Moffitt**

"I want to intern at a coroner's office because I'm interested in crime scene investigation."

**Arika Jeter**

### battle of the bulge

Backpack bulging out, Teddy Niemiec, freshman, walks through the hallways after school. "My day felt wasted [when I got homework] because I was not used to getting so much," Teddy said. "It was frustrating when that happened. There were so many exercises that drilled material into your mind."



Luke Adams  
Samantha Adler  
Kyle Aerts  
Eleni Agelopoulos  
Chelsea Aidinovich  
Melanie Albano  
Patricia Almaguer  
Elizabeth Almasy

Jeffrey Alvarez  
Jonathan Alvarez  
Victor Alvarez  
William Ambry  
Ambur Arnold  
Kyle Arnold  
Daniel Artus  
Shakyla Askew

Kristin Augustyne  
Adrienne Ault  
Stacey Avgis  
Zachery Bacha  
Michael Baggett  
Sara Baker  
Jessica Banaszak  
Zach Barrere

David Barrows  
Matthew Barsic  
Adam Barth  
Paige Basile  
Jacob Bateman  
Melissa Beary  
Rachel Beavers  
Michael Bednarowski

Kevin Behrens  
Alexander Bensley  
Brittany Bermingham  
Rebecca Bernardi  
Chandani Bhatt  
Helen Bisioulis  
Alyssa Bizoukas  
Joshua Bobeck





Sarah Bobos  
Heather Boyan  
Ja-Don Bradley  
Kaylee Brandon  
Cassandra Brazzle  
Michael Brette  
Joshua Brodsky  
Kyle Brown

Ana Victoria Bustalino  
Amber Callahan  
Ariel Callahan  
Annastazia Camarena  
Charlene Campbell  
Marionna Cane  
Chris Cantu  
Ricardo Carbajal

Emily Carlson  
Robert Carlson  
Timothy Carlson  
Jaquelyn Ceballos  
Jenna Cecil  
Antonio Ceja  
Marelle Cerven  
Eleonora Chakraborty

Vanessa Chavez  
Alexander Chuhara  
Sumanth Chintamani  
Georgenna Chioros  
Alison Choi  
Taylor Christianson  
Michelle Chung  
Christopher Chyung

Alan Cipich  
Santana Cisneros  
Jess Clark  
Kyle Clark  
Sarah Clusserath  
Matt Collison  
Andrew Compton  
Haley Conger

Jordan Cooper  
Bianca Cordova  
Serafin Cordova  
Trevor Corradin  
Kaila Corsiglia  
Thomas Costello  
Kelsey Crary  
Joseph Crisman

John Cristo  
John Cundiff  
Kelsey Dal Polo  
Kaitlin Dankanich  
Brett Davis  
Caren Decasaris  
Jeanette Dodelow  
Jennifer Deekert

Michael Della Rocco  
Morgan Dinga  
Alex Djordjevic  
Jani Dominguez  
Dustin Drazil  
Whitney Dumas  
Nathan Fagan  
Shawn Ebel

Daniel Economou  
Anadya Edmond  
Nicholas Estes  
Katherine Fager  
Daniel Falloon  
Matthew Fehring  
Natalia Fernandez-De-Co  
Jessica Filic



Alexandra Fimbianti

Natalie Fischer

Larissa Fisher

Jessica Flores

Alan Flowers

John Ford

Vaughn Foret

Kevin Formentini

Morgan Foster

Eric Frasco

Peter Frystak

Jourdan Furlong

Brian Galambos

James Gamino

Monica Gandarilla

Omar Garcia

Ryan Gardner

Gerardo Garibay

Michael Gauthier

Obatariakpo Gbagi

Onanome Gbagi

Steven Gehrig

Evan Gentile

Tyler German

Alexis Ginn

Denzel Goins

Michael Goldenberg

Regan Goldsmith

Judith Gonsalves

Angela Gonzalez

Autumm Gonzalez

Benjamin Gonzalez

Brandon Goralczyk

Elizabeth Gouwens

Stephanie Grabarczyk

Elizabeth Green

Joshua Green

Christina Greider

Megan Grogan

Tyler Grunewald

Aneesh Gupta

Diego Gutierrez

Anton Haddad

Ashtyn Hamlin

Douglas Hanenburg

Olivia Harris

Joseph Hemmingway

Andrew Henning

Sara Hernandez

Alexandra Herrera

James Hinkelman

Kaitlyn Hobbs

Mark Holcomb

Rebecca Holt

Brendan Hora

Justin Hott

George Howard

Steven Hulsey

Elizabeth Hutchings

Molly Imrich

Tyler Isenberg

Elisha Jachna

Cecilee James

Jessica Jamich

Arika Jeter

Lauren Johnson

Princess Johnson

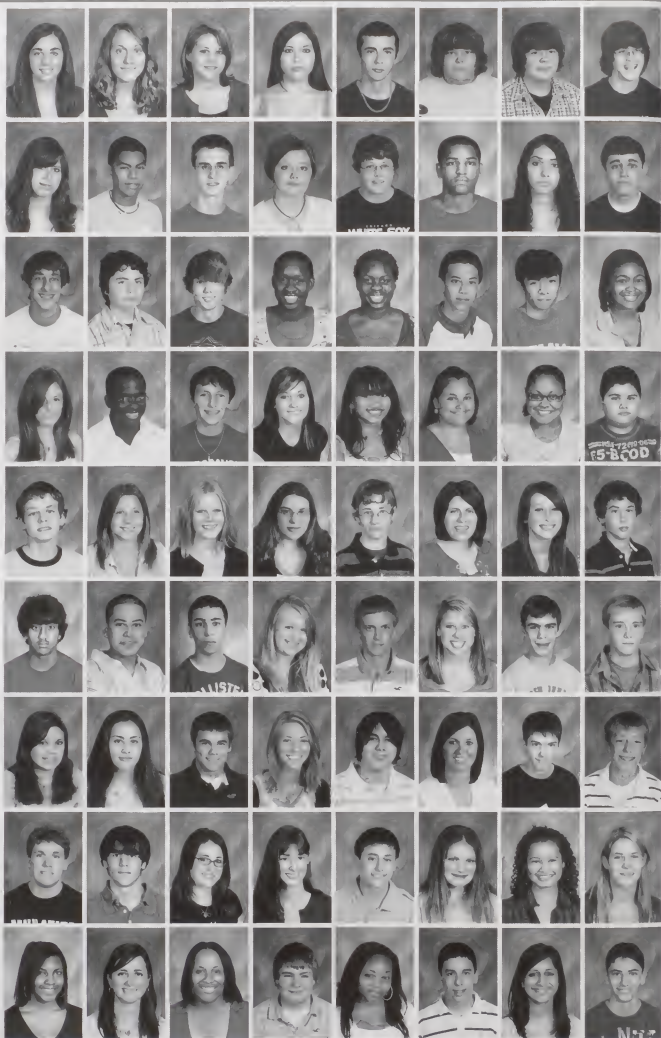
Ben Jones

Danielle Jones

Anthony Jurich

Nikita Kanak

George Kanavos



## small smarts

### Fengyee Zhou

**Why did you decide to take Algebra 2 Honors?**

I felt that I wanted a challenge in math.

**What was the workload like?**

We didn't get that much homework, but it was still a considerable amount.

**How did starting early give you an advantage?**

I could get more math courses completed and take AP

a thing or two

Arms crossed, Fengyee Zhou, freshman, skims over his conics test in Algebra 2 Honors. "I looked over my notes and practiced anything that my teacher mentioned," Fengyee said. "You needed to be focused on your objective and motivated to ask questions about things you didn't know."

stats my senior year.

**How will this help you in the future?**

Having a broader math base will always be beneficial no matter what classes I take.

### Christopher Chung

**Why did you decide to take Algebra 2 Honors?**

I started my math classes early my 7th grade year at my old school. I jumped 8th grade year.

**How did starting early give you an advantage?**

Since I started earlier I have that extra year with other classes that I could choose.

**What was the workload like?**

It got pretty demanding. We did a lot of book work, worksheets and graphs.

### Santhosh Narayan

**Why did you decide to take Algebra 2 Honors?**

It was a required class and it looked good for college. It also gave me an extra spot my senior year to take another class.

**How did starting early give you an advantage?**

When I take physics during my senior year I will already know the calculus.



Gina Karabatsk  
Alexandra Kattan  
Nirlep Kaur  
Timothy Kearney  
Erica Keeler  
Laura Kennedy  
Andrew Kerber  
Tyler Kerrick

Max Kihbarda  
Casey King  
Kori Kirby  
Kamryn Klawitter  
Elaine Klema  
Emily Koufos  
Olivia Koufos  
Andrew Koulourides

Jacob Kowalski  
Stacy Krah  
Henry Kroll  
Matthew Krueger  
Megha Kumar  
Shailen Kumar  
Luke Kurowski  
Michelle Kwolek

Paige Kyriakos  
Courtney Lagestee  
Ashley Landeros  
Adam Larimer  
Alexa Larock  
Jeffrey Lawler  
Hannah Leary  
Steven Lebeau

Joshua Lodonne  
Kevin Lee  
Michael Leusser  
Elizabeth Lewandowski  
Christine Lissy  
Alexandra Lodewyck  
Erin Lomeli  
Amanda Lopez

# littlebigmen

## a little knowledge is a dangerous thing

### myths VS. reality

**myth:** "There were a lot of bullies and people got stuffed in lockers."

**reality:** "There weren't many bullies and most people couldn't fit inside a locker."

**Ele Chakraborty**

**myth:** "I was on the soccer team and I heard that freshmen got treated terribly."

**reality:** "We got bossed around a little but it wasn't as bad as it seemed."

**Jonathan Wachala**

**myth:** "Underclassmen got hazed during Homecoming."

**reality:** "Hazing during Homecoming didn't turn out bad because most of the teachers controlled it."

**Andrew Hennig**

**myth:** "There were a lot of cliques."

**reality:** "You pretty much talked to everyone and everybody knew everyone else."

**Autumm Gonzalez**

### mark my word

Marked with lipstick, Brittney Birmingham, freshman, chats with a fellow cheerleader during the pep rally. "Since we were all cheerleaders the seniors wanted to write on our faces so we let them," Brittney said.



Collin Lopez  
Leonel Lopez  
Steven Losiniecki  
Cortney Lowry  
Milena Lukic  
Mitchell Lyness  
Kayla MacAdlo  
Tiffany Madura



Colleen Majszak  
Amber Maldonado  
Ashley Mangahas  
Aesha Maniar  
Kaitlin Mann  
Tamara Marcetic  
Chandler Marcus  
Ashley Martin



Joshua Martin  
Matthew Martin  
Sarah Martinez  
Dragana Martinovic  
Terra Matthews  
Michael Mavity  
Erin McCarthy  
Bridget McCullough



Emily McCullough  
Michael McKechnie  
Larkin McKenzie  
Evan McShane  
Aurelio Medina  
Mark Megremis  
Drew Mendez  
Bianna Meyer



Kyle Miller  
Brenda Mintz  
Patrick Moffitt  
Ahmad Mohammed  
Tara Mojtabeh  
Jessica Monjaras  
Payton Moore  
Jonathan Moreno







Samantha Morse  
Jeremy Mudro  
Kyle Mundy  
Tyler Musgrove  
Ayat Musleh  
Monah Musleh  
Santhosh Narayan  
Rachael Nelson

Jon Newcomb  
Spencer Newell  
Vincent Newton  
Teddy Niemiec  
James Nolan  
Kate Novak  
Megan Nowaczyk  
Nina Ogrizovich

Walter Olgy  
Yasemin Onur  
Bryan Ong  
Paige Opinker  
Kristin Opperman  
Michael Ortiz  
Jacob Osterman  
Jenna Pagane

Presley Pajor  
Cassandra Papan  
Joseph Palma  
Dimitri Panos  
Anastasia Papadatos  
Kyle Paphes  
Peyton Partida  
Lalit Patali

Matthew Paunicka  
Gleb Pavlov  
Garrett Peck  
Luke Pena  
Nicole Perez  
Ashley Pickett  
Elaine Pitbas  
Brooks Platt

Kathlyn Plewniak  
Alex Poerio  
Ryan Pohrte  
Michael Potts  
Amber Prenderville  
Hannah Pressley  
Alexander Priesol  
Samantha Puento

Julie Puvogel  
Andjela Radmilovic  
Sharifullah Rahmany  
Isabella Ramirez  
Thomas Ramirez  
Frank Rapin  
Mursal Rashid  
Joel Ratajack

Andy Rausch  
Jordan Raynor  
Marco Recio  
Peter Reindl  
Aubrey Reno  
Michael Resler  
Matthew Rhoda  
Emilie Riggs

Daniel Robles  
Bruna Rodrigues  
Gabriella Roque  
Jared Roque  
Evan Rowley  
Anthony Rubino  
Dominic Ruffalo  
Logan Ruiz



Samantha Salzeider  
Allison Samaniego  
Gabrielle Sapyta  
Shelby Sarnowski  
Dominique Schauer  
Samuel Schlesinger  
Kaylin Schmidt  
Jake Schnick



Emily Scholtz  
Elana Schwartz  
Alyssa Schweitzer  
John Seaman  
Aaditya Shah  
Monica Shah  
Niral Shah  
Jacob Shalen



Nathan Sharmat  
Sam Shields  
Rachel Shmagranoff  
Ryan Shreibak  
Shannon Shreibak  
Rachel Sieruga  
Joseph Silvas  
Megan Simmons



Gabrielle Sineni  
Timothy Slifko  
Jacob Smith  
Kayla Smith  
Luke Smith  
Casimir Soczyk  
Brianna Solola  
Brandon Sparks



Kyela Specht  
Paige Spinks  
Taylor Spinoso  
Ashley Spitz  
Lauren Starcevic  
Adam Stepanovic  
John-Paul Stephens  
Miriam Stock



Brian Stolarz  
Anthony Storino  
Michael Storino  
Samantha Strimel  
Kelsey Surma  
Stephen Swilbes  
Michael Swift  
Jacob Switzer



Anthony Syler  
Evan Sylvester  
Terry Szura  
Karly Taylor  
Katie Taylor  
Zachery Taylor  
Joshua Thomas  
Dillon Thompson



Jelena Todorovic  
Rogelio Torres  
Kaelyn Toth  
Kristina Traxler  
Natalie Tribou  
Nathan Tribou  
David Trykall  
Shawn Tuttle



Michael Tzolv  
Katherine Van Deusen  
Jessica Van Wieren  
Amber Vanes  
Gilbert Vasquez  
Lauren Vasquez  
Robert Vernier  
Calvin Vick



# stand out from the crowd

**Name:** Elaine Pitsas

**Age:** 15

**Sport:** swimming

**Awards:** State Qualifier; Scholar Athlete

**Award:** Varsity Athletic Award

**Hours per week:** 22

**Age you started:** I swam with the Munster Age Group Team when I was 8.

**Why did you choose swimming?** I tried dancing and volleyball and those weren't my specialties. Swimming was something I was good at and I stuck with it.

**What challenges have you overcome?** The summer when I was 12 I wanted to spend more time with my friends so I quit swimming. About two months later I realized how much I missed it, so I joined the team again.

**Name:** Brooks Platt

**Age:** 14

**Sport:** cross country/baseball

**Awards:** MVP; All-State Honorable Mention

**Hours per week:** 14

**Age you started:** I've been running since 6th grade and I've been playing baseball for as long as I could remember.

**Why did you choose baseball and cross country?** Baseball was a big part of my dad's life and it carried over to me. My brother Blake did cross country and I gave it a try and I ended up doing very well in it.

**What did you think about when you ran?** I just thought about getting it done and I needed motivation to beat someone or a personal goal.

**Name:** David Trykall

**Age:** 15

**Sport:** ping pong

**Awards:** 1st place 2008 Spring Warm-Up Tournament; 2nd place Chinese New Year Open

**Hours per week:** 7-9

**Age you started:** I started playing when I was 6, but I started training two years ago.

**Why did you choose ping pong?** My neighbors asked if I wanted a [ping pong] table so my parents ordered one and I started playing at home.

**What happens when you get sponsored?** When you are sponsored the sponsors let you train with their national team. I want to go to China because they hold most of the top players in the world.

## head start

While at a swim meet, Elaine Pitsas, freshman, does what she loves best. "My mom put me in swim lessons with my brother and my cousin when I was eight," Elaine said. "From then on I loved being in the water. Swimming was like breathing, it was hard to live without and it was a big part of my life."



Michael Vitkus  
Catherine Vlahos  
Carter Vusak  
Jonathan Wachala  
Elizabeth Wadas  
Christopher Wadlow  
Hannah Wagner  
Eric Walker

Jennifer Walton  
Kyle Wargo  
Brandon Weinberg  
Nicole Wujcik  
Christopher Yothumet  
Christian Young  
Angelique Zadrozny  
Steven Zahariadis

Stephan Zajac  
Evan Zurawny  
Danielle Zawistowski  
Nathan Zembala  
Fengyee Zhou  
Brandon Zoppetti

# littlebylittle

## Why did you become a teacher?

"I always wanted to be a teacher as well as a coach. The two went well together."

**Mr. David Franklin**  
Science Department chair

"I'm a people person and I enjoyed math. I wanted to help students learn to enjoy math too."

**Ms. Alyssa Rodriguez**  
math teacher

"My father was a college professor, so I grew up exposed to that. I thought I would do a good job and help kids more than my high school teachers had helped me."

**Mr. Bruce Curme**  
physics teacher

"I wanted to teach since I was five years old. I had a school in my backyard in the summer and I was always the teacher since I was older than the kids on my block."

**Mrs. Linda Lemon**  
English teacher

"I grew up in a family of teachers, but in college, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. Then as a graduate student I found that I enjoyed sharing my subject with young people."

**Mr. Mike Gordon**  
government teacher

## more than a teacher Mr. Jake Argenta: business teacher

### Q Why did you become a teacher?

I wanted to teach and be around kids. It also made it easier to become a coach, and the two go hand in hand together. I wanted to help and prepare kids for when they get older.

### Q Why did you chose to coach the Boys' JV Basketball Team?

I chose to coach the JV team here because it was a great place to start my coaching career. Coach Hackett was a coach of mine in high school, and I knew I would learn a lot about coaching from him.

### Q What made coaching so much fun?

The players did a great job of listening and learning and they used everything we taught in the games. To see the things that you have taught being used on the court was very fulfilling.



**Mr. Jake Argenta:** Business, Boys' JV Basketball Coach

**Dr. Timothy Bartlett:** Vocal Music Director, Music Dept. Rep, Ensembles, Musical

**Ms. Megan Bialas:** Spanish, Spanish Club  
**Mr. Larry Brechner:** Auditorium Director,  
Munster Theatre Company, Musical  
**Mrs. Donna Buck:** Westlake Aide





Mr. Brian Clark: Dean, Boys' Gold Coach  
 Mr. Kevin Clyne: English  
 Mr. Mike Coil: Biology, Girls' Basketball Coach,  
 Mrs. Tammy Daugherty: English, Speech & Debate Coach  
 Mr. Gary Davis: Physical Education, Lifesaving

Mrs. Carrie Diombala: Non-educational Aide  
 Mrs. Michelle Duffy: English, Girls' Cross Country Coach, Head Girls' Track Coach  
 Mrs. Christina Engle: Westlake Education  
 Miss Kyleen Eden: Chemistry, Student Government  
 Mr. Carl Fields: Art

Mrs. Carol Florence: Guidance Counselor  
 Mr. Don Fortner: Economics, Social Studies Dept. Chair, Speech and Debate Coach, Ass't Girls' Volleyball Coach  
 Mr. David Franklin: Science, Project Bio, Science Dept. Chair  
 Mrs. Phyllis Gilworth: Ass't Principal  
 Guidance  
 Mr. Michael Gordon: Social Studies, We the People

Mr. Jeff Graves: Chemistry  
 Mrs. Laura Guill: English, French  
 Mr. Mike Hackett: Health, Head Boys' Basketball Coach  
 Mrs. Hallie Hammond: Science  
 Mrs. Katie Harris: Math, Sophomore Class Sponsor

Mrs. Nancy Hastings: Journalism, Media Arts, *Paragon*, *Crier*, Quill and Scroll  
 Miss Kelly Haussman: Chemistry  
 Mr. Josh Herold: Social Studies, Eighth Grade football Coach  
 Mr. Matt Kalwasinski: Social Studies, Freshman Football Coach  
 Mrs. Deb Kelley: Main Office Secretary

Mrs. Anne Kinser: Auditorium Secretary  
 Mrs. Renee Kouris: English, Drama  
 Mrs. Brook Lemon: English  
 Mrs. Linda Lemon: English  
 Mrs. Elena Lopez: Art, Art Club



Ms. Paula Malinski: Physical Education  
Mr. Leroy Marsh: Health, Head Football Coach  
Ms. Twila Marsh: Media Specialist, Student Government  
Ms. Peggy Matanic: English  
Mr. Jordan Mayer: English, Speech Coach

Mr. Jim McNabney: English  
Mrs. Eileen Meier: German, German Club  
Mr. Bob Modesto: English, Girls' Tennis Coach  
Ms. Teresa Needles: Westlake Education  
Mrs. Lori Nicholas: Media Secretary

Mr. Morgan Nolan: Social Studies, Ass't Boys' Swim Coach  
Mrs. Kathy Olivotto: Guidance Counselor  
Mr. Glen Percifield: English, Speech Coach  
Mrs. Pat Premetz: Pre-Calculus, Math Dept. Chair  
Marilyn Rizzo: Family and Consumer Science

Mrs. Alyssa Rodriguez: Math  
Mr. David Russell: English Dept. Chair, Creative Writing  
Mrs. Judy Sayre: Westlake Aide  
Mrs. Lynn Schumacher: American Sign Language, ASL Club  
Mr. Bob Shinkan: Geometry, Head Varsity Baseball Coach, Ass't Varsity Football Coach, Girls' JV Basketball Coach

Mr. Rick Sluder: Social Studies, Ass't Girls' Track Coach  
Mr. Mike Smith: Athletic Director  
Mr. Bill Smitka: Social Studies, Eighth Grade football Coach  
Mr. Joseph Sokol: Math, Sophomore Class Sponsor  
Mrs. Michelle Stan: Social worker

Miss Alicia Stein: Math, Academic Team  
Miss Kathleen Stier: Family Consumer Science  
Mr. Corky Stopper: Non-educational Aide  
Mrs. Rita Stopper: Media Aide  
Miss Sarah Szarmach: Social Studies



# littlebylittle

## match the teacher with their hobbies

- 1 Ms. Kelly Haussman
- 2 Mr. Jeff Graves
- 3 Ms. Meghan Bialas
- 4 Mr. Paul LaReau
- 5 Mrs. Juliann Acevez
- 6 Mr. Bill Smitka
- 7 Mrs. Hallie Hammond

- a dance coach and choreographer
- b spends time with their baby girl
- c plays golf
- d plays chess with kids at the library
- e raises and shows horses
- f goes bike riding
- g works on computers

## check your answers

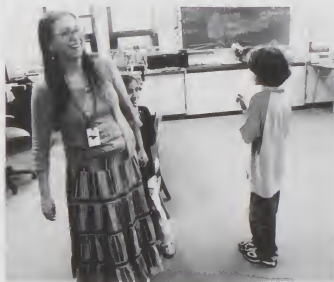
1 e 2 f 3 c 4 a 5 d 6 b 7 g

## catching some time

Enjoying some free time, Mr. Josh Herold, social studies teacher, plays catch with Mr. Bill Smitka, social studies teacher. "Baseball was a good stress reliever," Mr. Herold said. "Mr. Smitka and I would just goof around."

## mommy dearest

After a day of teacher in-service meetings, Mrs. Rosie Malagon, Spanish teacher, finally finds time with her children. Mrs. Malagon found a moment to break away in order to pick up her kids from school.



Mrs. Betsy Tanzillo: AV Aide  
Mrs. Janel Tobias: Science, Diving Coach  
Mr. Christopher Tomcsi: Math, Ass't Girls' Basketball Coach, Senior Class Sponsor  
Mr. Steven Tripenfeldas: Principal  
Mrs. Charlene Tsoutsouris: Spanish, Foreign Language Dept. Chair



Miss Sharon Vail: Guidance Counselor  
Miss Sarah Vicari: Science  
Miss Chrisanne Walter: Guidance Counselor  
Mrs. Jan Watson: Westlake Education  
Mr. Mike Wells: Ass't Principal



Mr. Steve Wroblewski: Geometry, Computer Programming



# And Then Some

“

I liked when I had Ping Pong Club because it was fun and I got to be with the people I knew.

Bridget McCullough, freshman



face squinted, Katie Palmer, sophomore, jokes around with her friend during a Guys and Dolls practice. hair spiraling out, Chris Reba, sophomore, paces himself during a cross country meet. ponytail swinging, Taylor Marcus, sophomore, practices her Poms dance routine as she readies for competition. dressed as Darth Vader, Kassia Groszewski, senior, plays the clarinet during Pep Band at a basketball game.

As the crowd files out at the end of the day, 1,083 students involved with sports and clubs linger behind

The musty smell of the weight room and field house permeated through the air as athletes walked to their empty classrooms to pick up their stuffed duffle bags before practice. The tiresome and painful laps the track team would endure at practice crossed their minds. However, the thought of running along side their friends provided them with motivation. The inside jokes friends shared during practice and on the sidelines lightened the intensity of long hours of training.

At the north end of the building, Spanish Club members decorated posters in the LGI for the Justo Lamas concert, and French Club finalized their plans for their annual Mardi Gras party. National Honor Society (NHS) members tutored students in need of help for the organic chemistry unit in the library, while down the hall voices echoed as Speech and Debate members practiced their events. Hard work paid off when Speech and Debate qualified nine students for Nationals. After school activities provided students with a break from homework, while still keeping students active. Busy practicing, the Girls' Tennis Team handily won Sectionals for the 31st consecutive year and later advanced to State, while softball shocked Lake Central to win its first Sectional title in 11 years.

Project X members bought simple necessities such as shirts and pajamas to put a smile on senior citizens' faces at Hartsfield Village for Christmas. Students joined extracurriculars not only because of their interests, but because of the rewards and impacts on the Calumet Region, while they created lasting memories...AND YOU CALL THIS FUN?



united as one For their chant before the game, the Boys' Varsity Basketball Team huddles around their captain, Krste Ruiz (2), junior. "We pumped ourselves up for the game, got in the zone and got ready to play as a team," Ruiz said. The boys came together before every game for this chant. After it ended the boys took their places and got down to business.



tip to toe At practice, Kara Korem, senior, practices her forward half somersault with a twist. "Diving was muscle memory," Korem said. "After doing it 40 to 50 times at every practice, it was very helpful." The divers would record their dives to spot their mistakes.

read the signs During pregame at the Homecoming football game, seniors Harrison Hernandez, Max Tratar, and Brandon Schweitzer sign to the crowd. "We signed the Star Spangled Banner for the hearing impaired in the crowd," Brandon said. The boys learned the words to the songs in American Sign Language (ASL) class.



# down and dirty

From rolling in mud to dancing in air, students seek friendly activities outside of school

**W**ith the wind whipping back her hair, Megha Kumar, freshman, glides on the cement pavement with roller blades attached to her feet. Her puppy runs beside her as she skates for the second time that week.

"[Rollerblading] was fun because it got me off the couch and made me more active," Megha said. "Sometimes I'd go rollerblading with my friends, and other times I would roller skate with my puppy while listening to music. It was a lot more fun than

just walking."

Recreational sports gave teens something to do other than watch television. Activities helped students get up and move and provided fun.

"I did Club Volleyball outside of school," Paige Spinks, freshman, said. "[Volleyball] was my favorite sport, so being on the team gave me something fun to do. I could spend time with my friends while playing [volleyball]."

Playing sports with friends helped

create more of a relaxed atmosphere.

"Friends made sports more interesting and a lot more fun when you played together," David Kiesling, junior, said. "When the weather got nice out, I'd go out to the park and play baseball with my friends."

Friends enjoyed playing sports that they shared in common. Some even made friends because of sports.

"I got to know a lot of new people when I started going to the skate park," Chris Sicinski, sophomore, said. "Skateboarding was fun to do when I was bored. If I had nothing to do I would call up someone and ask if they wanted to go to the park with me. I'd grab my board and go."

Some played sports for fun, but others participated in order to train for school sports.

"After track season, I ran several miles a day to keep up with my personal training," Ricky Decker, sophomore, said. "I liked the adrenaline rush I got from running, and after I was done, I felt physically good. Running outside of school helped me a lot, and it was still fun."

While listening to her iPod, Megha smiles as she comes to the corner and greets some friends. Whether it be going to the park to play baseball or taking a jog on the track for training, recreational sports provided active entertainment for students and their friends.

"[Tae-Kwon-Do] was a good way to relieve stress. I made a lot of friends and I learned how to defend myself."

Emily Imrich,  
junior



#### quick save

Sliding for the puck, Phillip Bernardi, senior, guards his team's goal. "The best thing about hockey was that you didn't have to worry about anything, except the game," Phillip said. "You just needed to worry about doing your job for the team."

#### mid-point

Stopped in mid-air, Mike Resler, freshman, flips his board on the ramp. "When I did big jumps while skating, I felt weightless," Mike said. "[Skateboarding] gave me one of the best feelings in the world when I got to be high in the air like that."





#### ready and waiting

As he aimed his gun, Chi-Town Force Team member Anthony Ayersman, junior, moves into position. "I'll play paintball because it was better than everything else I had ever done, like snowboarding and blading," Anthony said. "I liked waking up early to go play paintball with my friends."

#### spin around

Practicing their routines, Sara Sasamimanu and Emily Kitchell, juniors, turn in sync to the beat. "Dance is a passion for me," Sara said. "It gave me something to do outside of school and it was a lot of fun to dance with my friends."



#### kick start

While kicking her opponent, Lynlee Shutka, junior, practices during her Ju-Jitsu class. Ju-Jitsu, a form of karate, proved to be a good way to relieve stress and be active outside of school.

#### push it forward

After school with Spanish Club, Ietsuo Ioyama and Kyle Carey, sophomores, play against Max Kilbordi, freshman. "Soccer was fun to play because it got you moving and it pumped you up," Kyle said. "Having that adrenaline rush was fun along with the competition between friends."

#### at a stretch

Sitting on the grass, Sam Kasmark, senior, stretches before the Gavit Invitational. "I'd pull on my legs and arms before a race so I wouldn't pull anything while running," Kasmark said. The team placed first overall.

#### close ranks

With a steady pace, juniors, Matt Gehrig and Fred Olasobikan, inhale deeply at the Riverside. "I was running my fastest to get a good pace. A good pace gets you a good place," Gehrig said. Gehrig placed fifth with 17:29.

#### end of the road

After minutes of running the course, Ian Svaboda, sophomore, finishes first in his race at Lowell. "I was pushing it to my limit to get across the line," Svaboda said. The team placed 1st overall at Lowell.



## ready for the long run

Team stands together to place 9th at State for first time in school history

**S**weat streamed down freshman Brooks Platt's face while he ran alongside his brother, captain Blake Platt, senior, on a hot September day during Cross Country practice.

"Having my brother on the team was good because we've always been close to each other," Blake Platt said. "It's not unusual that he's on the team. I try to make him look up to me, but there is no way I'm ever going to beat him."

The sibling brothers on the team seemed normal. Beyond the blood-related brothers on the team, a brotherly bond formed between the rest of teammates.

"In each case [of brothers], the younger brothers chased the older brothers," Coach

Aaron Brown, Wilbur Wright physical educator, said. "The older brothers were always supporting and encouraging their siblings."

There was no difference between best friends and brothers for the teammates.

"We were all like a family," Platt,

senior, said. "We were not just brothers and friends. We were great friends and noticed each other as individuals."

The team members created a lasting bond on and off the track, which led them into success. The team placed first at their first Regional match that left another achievement to their record.

"We really wanted to win [Sectionals] because we haven't won anything this big since 1988," Platt, freshman, said.

The team ran their way through Sectionals, Regionals, Semi-State and crossed the finish line at State.

"Winning Regionals and placing third at Semi-State was the most memorable moment this season," Blake Williams said. "We had never done either of those things before."

The team's success, earned by after school practice every day and running miles around the town, lasted until the end of the season.

"We had beaten every team out there [at meets], and there was tough competition," captain James Burgwald, senior said. "We had hoped to win our first Regionals for the school," captain James Burgwald, senior, said.

Hours of practice on humid fall days resulted into many successes as the team ran on side by side.





Boys' Cross Country (front row) Pat Fagan, Justin Holt, Chris Cantu, Brooks Platt, Evan McShane, Steve Gehrig, Travis Kmetz, Chris Reba (second row) Ian Svoboda, Sam Kasmark, James Burgwald, Jacob Gerber, Nick Brown, Tyler Schwartz, Coach Aaron Brown (back row) Fred Olasebikan, Matt Stewart, Kenny Hamilton, Matt Gehrig, Jovan Andjelich, Blake Platt, Blake Williams, Grant Williams

## Boys' Cross Country 149-18

Crown Point Invite	Kankakee Valley Invrte
2nd of 8	1st of 8
Gavit Invitational	Conference Meet @ Lowell
1st of 17	1st of 7
Conference @ Griffith	Sectionals
22, L-33, G-154	1st of 10
TF South Invitational	Regional
1st of 17	1st of 10
Conference @ Kankakee Valley	Semi-State
15-49	3rd of 20
Conference @ Andean	State
20-39	9th of 24
Lowell Invitational	Honors
1st of 15	All Conference
Conference @ Highland	Brooks Platt
16-45	James Burgwald
New Prairie Invite	Blake Williams
6th of 31	Matt Gehrig
Conference @ Hobart	Jovan Andjelich
19-40	Sam Kasmark
Highland Invitational	
1st of 19	



### watch the clock

With his watch ticking, Tyler Schwartz, junior, pushes himself to finish. "Running was hard, but I tried to do it and I took up the challenge," Schwartz said. Schwartz depended on faster times to improve.

### follow the leader

With mind focused, Blake Williams, senior, begins his race. "It was important to start fast and to not get stuck in the crowd," Williams said. Williams finished the season with All Conference Honors and team Most Valuable Player.



#### In the long run

At the start of the race, Amy Fuhs, senior, and sophomores Lindsey Kunz and Brigid Marriott, stick together. "We had a really good front pack that really pushed each other all the way to State, where they placed 14<sup>th</sup>."

#### keep it cool

After running against Kankakee Valley, Lindsey Kitchell, sophomore, tries to catch her breath and cool down. "I was exhausted and I wanted to be done," Kitchell said. Kitchell tried to calm her body down after the long races in the hot sun.

#### keep your friends close

Side by side, sophomores Ruby Girm and Lindsey Kitchell ran together for motivation. "It was exciting because she [Girm] is my best friend and if one of us started to fall behind, we would tell each other to pick up the pace and not give up," Kitchell said. Running with teammates encouraged the girls to keep going.



#### Cross Country

130-32

##### Crown Point Invite 1st of 8

Gavit Invite

4<sup>th</sup> of 15

NCC @ Griffith

16, L-42, G-inc

TF South Invite

3 of 16

NCC/KV 17-45

NCC/Andrean

18-43

##### Lowell Invite

1<sup>st</sup> of 15

NCC @ Highland

17-46

New Prairie Invite

9<sup>th</sup> of 30

Hobart @ Munster/

NCC 15-49

##### Highland Invite

2<sup>nd</sup> of 18

KV Invite 1<sup>st</sup> of 6

NCC Meet @

Lowell 1<sup>st</sup> of 7

##### Post Season

Sectionals 2<sup>nd</sup> of 8

Regionals

2<sup>nd</sup> of 10/121 pts.

Semi-State

4<sup>th</sup> of 20

State

14<sup>th</sup> of 24/372 pts.

##### Honors

Conference Champs

First Time State

Qualifiers



Girls' Cross Country (front row) Michelle Kwolek, Lindsey Kitchell, Ashley Burton, Stacey Avigis, Lindsey Kunz, Brigid Marriott, Jessica Kitchell (second row) Jennifer Novosel, Jessica Cuadra, Col-

leen Boyle, Julie Zavich, Kathryn Helfen, Ruby Girm, Mary Drzich, Kyela Specht (back row) Ruth Christopher, Tabitha Strong, Megan Hruska, Coach Michelle Duffy, Devin Gosberry, Sophie Griggs, Amy Fuhs

# making a run to State

Teamwork  
advances girls  
to finals as part of  
'dream season'

**F**or the first time in school history, the Girls' Cross Country Team advanced from Semi-State to State.

Earlier in the season, the girls had no idea what to expect.

"At the beginning, we were not sure we could make it to State," Jessica Kitchell, junior, said. "The turning point was at New Prairie because we did really well."

It was all uphill for the team after placing 9<sup>th</sup> at New Prairie. The girls then placed second at Sectionals and Regionals. After Regionals, the team finished fourth at Semi-State which qualified them for State.

"[The best moment of the season was] qualifying for State," Coach Michelle Duffy, English teacher, said. "We knew that it was a possibility, and they [the girls] just had to match my expectations and their potential in order to get there."

To try to meet Coach Duffy's expectations, the team did different types of training. At the start, the team worked on building a foundation of distance. Then they incorporated hill work and focused primarily on speed and

strength training, according to Coach Duffy. The girls also swam, jumped rope and worked on their abs.

"We trained really hard and pushed each other to the limits," Lyndsey Kunz, sophomore, said.

All the training paid off when the girls placed 14<sup>th</sup> at State.

Not only did the girls work hard to get to State—they had fun. Before every meet, the girls did the "Kumcha." The girls formed a circle and chanted. Sometimes the coach got in the center of the circle and chanted too, according to Kitchell.

"It was something silly and fun to do," captain Amy Fuhs, senior, said.

The team became really close throughout the season by having sleep overs and parties. The girls also made tie-dye t-shirts for State.

"The season was a dream," Coach Duffy said. "Pretty much every expectation I had at the beginning of the season was surpassed both competitively and in regards to team work and team dynamic."

"After the New Prairie Invite, we realized that we had a good chance to make it to State, so that really pushed us to reach our team goal—get to State."

Lyndsey Kunz,  
sophomore



#### time will tell

Checking her watch, Amy Fuhs, senior, paces herself. "You needed to make sure that you were on a pace that you could maintain throughout the race," Fuhs said. Fuhs checked her watch frequently during races.

#### take a breather

After the race against Kankakee Valley, Marv Drzich, sophomore, rests. "I felt relaxed when the race was done," Drzich said. After the race, Drzich thought about how she could improve the next race.

#### no pain

At the Conference meet against Kankakee Valley, Devin Gosberry, senior, tries to ease the pain of running. "Sometimes I sang songs to take my mind off the pain," Gosberry said. In the end, the girls lost, 11-45.

# caught in slow motion

Despite rough season team learns how to be a team

**P**utting on his game face captain Max Tratar, senior, struggled to ignore his increased heart rate and the onset of his jittery nerves before the Highland Battle of the Bridge game.

The football team never lost their battle of nerves. After the first kick off, the nerves diminished, according to Tratar, offensive lineman. The burning desire to beat Highland surpassed their nerves. That desire brought along with it a false sense of self-confidence that sometimes cost them the game, as in the Andrean game, where the team lost 28-31.

"We could never finish the whole game," Tratar said. "At half time we

assumed we had it, and then we'd end up losing."

The team suffered close losses against Lake Central, 10-14; Andrean, 28-31; and Griffith, 29-34. The close losses usually developed in the fourth quarter, according to Coach Le-

roy Marsh, health teacher.

"I wish we would have had a little more depth where more players were

#### head strong

Ready for the battle, Mitch LaRock (55), senior, charges head first through the cheerleaders' spirit sign. "It's a giant adrenaline rush," LaRock said. "I lived to play underneath the lights on Friday night." Taking the field he focused on the game ahead against Lowell.

able to play the game, so that later in the game we could have played better," Coach Marsh said.

Personal situations off the field ended up getting to the players, according to running back, captain John Jurkash, senior. The loss of a fellow teammate's mother became one of those situations.

The season unraveled an emotional roller coaster, according to Coach Marsh.

With everything that came into play, including the close losses and the emotional aspects of the season, the boys learned what it truly meant to be a team—being there for a fellow "brother" in a time when he needed them most.

Senior captains John Jurkash, Max Tratar, Gilroy Velasquez and Alex Brajak cheered and encouraged their teammates to keep going, to give their best, and to have fun, whether they win or lose. This presented a new viewpoint of the game. Even on the sidelines, the boys encouraged their teammates, according to Jurkash.

The term "journey" most accurately described the season, as the players grew together as a close team, according to Tratar.

As helmets clashed and skin cut open, the boys were oblivious. They would get back up and continue the

*continued on page 115*

#### out stretched

While seniors Walter McDonald (78) and Joe Abu-Aita (27) are caught in the mix, Joey Torres (45), junior, dives at Lowell's running back to try to stop him from completing the play. "My responsibility was a lot of reacting to whatever move they made," Torres said. Despite the effort, Torres couldn't stop him.



"Once the game starts you calm down and you're more relaxed. You get all the stress out of your system," Jeff Florek, senior



#### state of mind

In search of someone open, Joe Gill (15), junior prepares to pass. "I calm myself and try to concentrate," Joe said. Finding an open man, Joe passed for a first down on Lowell.

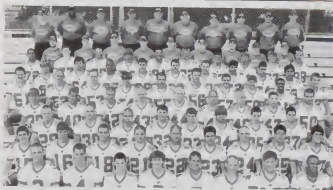


#### forcing forwards

Following through his kick, Jake Smith, freshman, punts the ball to Gary Wirt. "I don't think, I just do it," Smith said. Though the game was scheduled for Aug. 23, torrential rains that Friday postponed the game to Saturday.

#### up for the kill

In position to take out the only threat left, John Jurkash (31), blocks for Ian Boswell (28), junior, to allow a touchdown against Gary Wirt. "I ran full speed and took him out," Jurkash said. "He was the only one to be blocked and it was my job to stop the threat." The boys beat Gary Wirt 42-8.



**Varsity Football Team** (front row) Joe Gill, Dan Gardner, Jake Smith, Jeff Lucas, Billy Hasse, Pat Doherty, Zach Langbehn, Aaron Estrada (second row) Josh Lukoshus, Larry Allen, Nick Pantazis, Brett Bertagnoli, Gilroy Vlasquez, Jeff Florek, Taylor Kimes, Jason Han, Joe Abu-Alita (third row) Ian Boswell, Alex Brajak, John Jurkash, Matt Shacklett, Alex Martell, John Bochnowski, Matt McNicholas, Billy Andrews (fourth row) Sean Ziemba, Alex Ostoich, Mitch Fugh, Ryan Wilkinson, Brandon Miller, Joe Torres, Matt Nelson, Brad Lewis, Ben Taylor (fifth row) Kyle Fox, Kevin Nossem, Jonnet The, Alex Powell, Mitch LaRock, Max Tratar, Adam Rhoda, Ben Balasio, Andy Lucas, John White, Sean Dillner (sixth row) Pat Howard, Grant Traxler, Martin Ortiz, Nick Nowaczynk, Matt Skiba, David Garcia, Bugusz Wozniak, Steve Beatty, Adrian Yepce (seventh row) Greg Clark, Zach Bucholtz, Walter McDonald, Brett Strohl, Morgan Keifer, Nolan Slikko, Keith Shaw, Alex Welch, Kevin Watterson, Sam Shaner, Justin Gill (eighth row) Mr. Matt Kalwasinski, Mr. Bill Smithka, Mr. Dan Celarden, Mr. Morgan Nolan, Mr. Matt Backs, Mr. Bill Howard, George Howard, Kyle O'Brien, Michael Doherty (back row) Head Trainer John Doherty, Mr. Bob Fisher, Mr. Bob Shinkin, Mr. Michael Megyesi, Mr. Tom Largas, Head Coach Leroy Marsh, Mr. Brian Vance, Mr. Tony Bartolomeo, Mr. Jason Grunewald, Mr. Joe Helmer

#### Varsity Football

3-7  
3-8 conference  
Lake Central 10-14  
Gary Wirt 42-8  
Highland 49-0  
Andreas 28-31  
Morton 14-21  
Griffith 29-34  
Hobart 7-41  
Lowell 19-37  
Kankakee Valley 27-15

#### Sectionals

Crown Point 9-35



#### never letting go

While crashing to the field, Kevin Watter-son (85), sophomore, holds on tight to the ball. "I just hoped that I could make a good play that would help the team out," Watter-son said. He managed to land the down for the play.

#### in the sweep

In step behind blocker Mitch LaRock (55), senior, Jason Han (25), junior, has three thoughts, "run hard, drive your feet, and don't go down on first contact," Han said. "You think about your assignments, what the count is, make sure you get the hand-off securely and make a run for it." He swept the field into the end zone against Lowell.



JV  
2-6  
Lake Central 8-27  
Highland 41-0  
Andresen 6-12  
Morton 26-36  
Griffith 38-42  
Hobart 7-28  
Lowell 7-19  
Kankakee Valley  
35-6

Freshmen  
2-5  
Lake Central 6-15  
Highland 28-12  
Andresen 14-6  
Morton 14-18  
Griffith 8-44  
Hobart 7-22  
Lowell 6-27



**Freshman Football Team** (front row) Steve Hulsey, Mike Ortiz, Tommy Costello, Jake Smith, Ryan Gardner, John Cristo, Luke Smith (second row) Jared Roque, George Howard, Nate Eagan, Kyle Clark, Danny Robles, Denzel Goins, Dimitri Panoos, Steve Losamecka (third row) Taylor Spinoso, Luke Adams, Brian Galambos, Danny Falloon, Kyle Wargo, Mike Vitkus, Mike Swift, Zach Barrene, Jake Osterman (fourth row) Kevin Lee, John Seaman, Kyle Miller, Tyler Kerrick, Mike Mavity, Tyler Musgrove, Andy Rausch, Max Kilbarda (fifth row) Garrett Peck, Matt Rhoda, Marco Recio, Jake Switzer, Mike McKeehnie, Matt Krueger, Matt Collison, Ricardo Carbajal, Walter Olgy (back row) Mr. Matt Kalwasinski, Mr. Morgan Nolan, Mr. Matt Backs, Mr. Bill Howard





## caught in slow motion

continued from page 112

game. At the end of the game, their nerves finally caught up with them. As they walked off the field, every muscle ached, according to Jurkash.

**Catching his breath** at the end of the last quarter, defensive back Ian Boswell, junior, glanced at the scoreboard, 49-0, complete domination over Highland at the Battle of the Bridge.

No one thought we would win, but we knew we would," Boswell said.

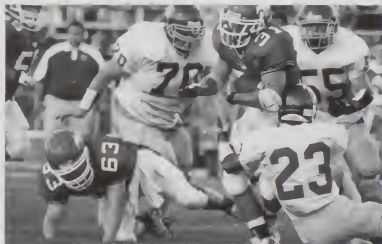
Overcoming the odds, the team won the traveling Bridge trophy. The infamous "Battle of the Bridge" emerged as the biggest win of the year.

"One of the best parts of the game was the fact that we didn't let them get a single point on the board," running back Jason Han, junior, said. "It's always a great win when they don't score."

It was one of the team's most complete games throughout the season. All three phases: offense, defense, and kicking did overly well, according to Coach Leroy Marsh.



**Coach Leroy Marsh**  
**Years coaching:** 35;  
 28 (head coach since 1980), 7 as an assistant  
**Accomplishments:**  
 7 Conference Championships,  
 5 Sectional titles,  
 1 Regional Crown  
**Favored traits:** "Coach Marsh is not your typical coach," captain John Jurkash said. "He cares about the players like they're his own sons."



### making a statement

Connected captains Gilroy Velasquez (22), Max Tratar (56), Alex Brajak (30) and John Jurkash (31), seniors, take the field as one. "We connected our hands to show the other team that they couldn't get through us unless they go through all of us," Velasquez said.

### still standing

to gain on Highland, John Jurkash (31), senior, pushes through the defense. "I overplayed myself and tried to do more than I should," Jurkash said. My coach came up and told me to relax and let the game come to me." With help from Pat Howard (63), senior, Jurkash completed a down for the team.



### piled high

As someone yells fumble, seniors Max Tratar (56), Mitch LaRock (55) and Joe Abu-Aita (27) fight for the ball. "After getting a fumble it boosted the whole team's morale and we all put in the extra effort having finally caught a break," Tratar said. Despite the break, the boys lost the Homecoming game against Lowell 19-37.

## Girl's Golf

4-2  
4-2 conference

Portage	Hobart
199-216	201-199
Lake Central Invite	Kankakee Valley
3rd of 11	207-196
Kankakee Valley Invite	Andraan
420	206-247
Rensselaer Invite	Highland
10th of 15	206-231
New Prairie Invite	NCC Meet
5th of 12	1st of 7
Griffith	Hanover Central
194-266	189-235
Crown Point	Sectionals
207-196	2nd of 12
Lake Central	Regionals
389-344	8th of 12
Lowell	Honors
206-221	Conference
Merrillville	Champs
196-240	



Girls' Varsity Golf Team (front row) Kristine Kho, Katie Kocis, Laura Kinser, Jenny Silverman, Samantha Curtis, Kamryn Klawitter, Mallory McShane (back row) Emily Imrich, Brianne Rubesha,

Molly Imrich, Coach Jim Davidson, Sarah Johnson, Allison Skimehorn, Rachel Hannigan



### write it down

With pencil at hand, Kristine Kho, junior, jots down her score. "[Having eyes on me] made me nervous and want to get it over with faster," Kho said.

### put it straight

Concentrated on putting, Kamryn Klawitter, freshman, readies to swing at Wicker Park. "To concentrate, I would think positive and think about what I did well on," Klawitter said. Her focus led her to win the Pride, Hustle and Desire award and place Second All-Conference.



### small talk

Walking between holes, junior Laura Kinser and senior Sarah Johnson talk about the game. "It was nice when we got to play with our own teammates because we actually had stuff to talk about," Kinser said.





#### blast out

With her sandwedge, Laura Kinser, junior, tries to blast out of the sand. "[Sand shots] were the hardest to hit," Kinser said. "If you didn't get out the first time, they added a lot of strokes to your score."

#### face the facts

Happily grinning, Laura Kinser laughs as Coach Davidson tells a joke. Coach Davidson believed making fun was a way to relax and make the girls less nervous.

#### in plain sight

As she lines up her ball, Sarah Johnson, senior, eyes the slope of the green. "It was easier to line up your putter and, if you hit it smoothly, when it spins you'd see a black line," she said. Precision led the team to 2nd at Sectionals.



## Take a rain check

Team overcomes loss of home course due to August flooding

**U**nexpected thunderstorms and flash floods took a toll on girls' golf, flooding Wicker Park golf course in late August.

"Having the Wicker golf course flood really put a dent in our season," captain Sarah Johnson, senior, said.

The team practiced at their home course, Wicker Park, before the flood. After the flood, however, they could only putt and drive on the last hole, the one not damaged by the rains.

"That [Wicker] was where our Sectionals were supposed to be. If they [Sectionals] were there, it would have been a big advantage," captain Laura Kinser, junior, said. "Sectionals moved to a lot tougher course [Lost Marsh in Hammond], and it was one that we never played before."

The girls practiced at Lost Marsh a week before Sectionals and tried to familiarize themselves with the course.

"We were hoping we could get third place," Coach Jim Davidson, industrial technology teacher, said.

Instead, the team finished second as they beat Crown Point, the team's main competition, according to Kinser. This allowed the girls to advance to Regionals, where they finished eighth.

#### driving force

With aligned form, Sarah Johnson, junior, drives the ball. "We had to adjust, but I don't think it [losing their home course] affected the team," Johnson said. "No one can control the weather." Johnson won All Conference Honors at the end of the season.

The girls celebrated this accomplishment since they lost three of their best seniors to graduation the previous year.

"It was nice for the underclassmen to come on and take their spots," Kinser said. "They did a good job at replacing them [the seniors who graduated]."

Many of the girls became close during the season. "We motivated one another," Kristine Kho, senior, said. "The five of us did everything together."

The five varsity players practiced together on their own time and often went out to eat afterwards. The season was enjoyable, according to Kho.

"I never thought it [golf] was fun," Kho said. "I thought it was serious, but everyone made it fun."

The girls agreed that the bus rides were some of the best moments.

"We danced on the bus and had a good time," Kho said. They played different songs like "Booty Bounce" and other techno tunes, according to Coach Davidson.

Despite the weather and flooded home course, the rains did not ruin their season.



"[The weather] caused many meets to get rescheduled, but we still practiced even harder on the days that were good."

Allison Skimehorn, sophomore



# youth provides driving force

Young team  
works together for  
love of the game

**B**right lights illuminated the soccer field Sept. 19. The crowd leapt to its feet cheering when captain Stefan Coric, senior, tied the game against Highland, 2-2, then scored the winning goal in the last two minutes.

"I felt like we all came together, and we pushed together as a team," Coric said.

After the winning goal, Coric ran to the crowd and dropped to his knees with his arms stretched up in victory. Fans bombarded the team on the field

and created a circle of celebration in the crisp autumn air, while photographers captured the moment from a distance.

"At the end of the game everyone in the crowd came on the field with the team," Adam Cooper, senior, said. "It was a

tremendous feeling."

As the team achieved 13 victories, concentration proved to be an important factor. Short term lapses in con-

centration posed the biggest challenge to the team, according to Coach Jim Prasopoulos, Westlake teacher, and captain Kyle Stuart, senior. Team members demonstrated their commitment to concentration as the season progressed, as evident in the Highland game.

"The team learned to play for the entire game with no letdowns," Stuart said. "At the beginning, we would play really hard for the whole game except the last 10 minutes, but towards the end we eliminated that problem."

Teamwork helped them beat Andean, which kicked the team up to Conference level.

"[A unique moment of the Andean game was] finally winning Conference for the first time since freshman year," Brian Schmidt, senior, said. "It felt pretty good."

The post-season opened with triumphs at Sectionals against Morton and Highland. Despite losing to Lake Central at Regionals, 0-1, Coach Prasopoulos put the season into perspective.

"They played so hard every minute, every second, no matter the score—like at the Highland game," Coach Prasopoulos said. "We fought, and we fought, and we fought. We never gave up. We played like a team."

"Being the oldest person on the team made every game count knowing it's your last season to play."

captain Billy Hasse, senior



stuck in the middle

In between Griffith players, Spanish foreign exchange student, Manuel Vicenta, junior, tries to steal the ball. The team beat Griffith 9-0. "The friendships here are better in the U.S.," Vicenta said. "They [the teammates] interact more here because we practice more [than in Spain]."

run the field

On the run, captain Kyle Stuart, senior, kicks down the field. "I concentrated during the games on not letting the crowd affect me," Stuart said. "I tried to just play the game and eliminate dumb mistakes." Lack of mistakes led Stuart to earn All District honors at the end of the season.





#### eye on the prize

Scoring the only goal, Eric Frasco, freshman, steers clear of a Highland player at Sectionals, where the boys beat Highland 2-1. "They [Highland] were tough competitors and barely lost any games, so they were fun to play," Frasco said.

#### high spirits

Hands-in-the-air, the team celebrates after the Griffith game. "We were a bunch of individuals until we went out on the field," Coach Jim Prasopoulos, West Lake teacher, said. The team beat the Griffith Panthers 9-0.



#### in control

Down two points against Highland, captain Stefan Coric, senior, does a kick up. Coric used the team motto as motivation to score two more points that set the final score at 3-2. "You can never give up," Coric said. "You have to play until the clock is zero to zero no matter what."



**Boys' Varsity Soccer Team** (front row) Jeff Lucas, Sonny Marcetic, Alex Stanha, Stefan Coric, Krste Ruiz, Kyle Stuart (second row) Adam Cooper, Derek Carlson, Anthony Huard, Brian Schmidt, Matt Goodman, Eric Frasco, Alex Shmagranotti (back row) Coach Jim Prasopoulos, Erick Ferer, Neil Stoffregen, Seth Flahaven, Billy Hasse, Marcus Alfonsi, Brandon Ruiz, Coach Ron Moore



**Boys' JV Soccer Team** (front row) Aaron Cooper, Jake Shalen, G.W. Childs, Jacob Smith, Terry Grunewald, Craig Dohman (second row) Jonathan Wachala, Brad Armour, Andrew Koulourides, Jeff Lawler, Bobby Carlson, Tony Coja (back row) Coach Jim Prasopoulos, Mike Jerge, Zach Vega, Jess Clark, Mike Farrell, Joe Krupa, Coach Ron Moore

#### Varsity Soccer

14-3-3

##### 6-0 conference

Portage 2-1

Bishop Noll 2-2

Lowell 7-1

Kankakee Valley 6-1

Morton 7-0

Chesterton 0-3

Griffith 9-0

Merrillville 3-1

Crown Point 6-3

Hobart 6-0

Mishawaka

Marian 0-2

Highland 3-2

Lake Central 1-1

Andean 4-0

East Chicago 9-0

##### Sectionals

Morton 9-0

Highland 2-1

Bishop Noll 2-1

Regionals

Lake Central 0-1

#### JV Soccer

13-0-3

##### 5-0-1 conference

Portage 0-0

Bishop Noll 7-0

Lowell 7-0

Kankakee Valley 5-1

Valparaiso 1-0

Morton 8-0

Chesterton 2-1

Griffith 6-0

Merrillville 2-0

Crown Point 3-0

Hobart 8-0

Mishawaka

Marian 3-0

Highland 1-1

Lake Central 1-1

Andean 2-0

East Chicago 5-1

##### Honors

Conference Champs

Sectional Champs

All Conference

Kyle Stuart

Krste Coric

Krste Ruiz

Anthony Huard

#### caught in the corner

After Valparaiso lost the ball by going over the back line, Olivia Koufos (33), sophomore, takes a free kick. "I just tried to relax and calm my nerves since I had to pop the ball up," Koufos said. The girls beat Valparaiso 3-2.

#### nothing but net

As the team warms up for the game, Allison Welch (6), junior, takes her turn at the net. "We warmed up to get our minds set for the game, to get loose and to pump ourselves up," Welch said. After warm ups, the girls turned their attention to the game plan.

#### tied up

After tying the Valparaiso game 2-2, Leah Brousalis (7), junior, walks to the sidelines to exchange a double high five with Coach Tim Sopko. "I was really excited and more focused after I tied it," Brousalis said. "I was eager to get out there and just finish off the game." She took her place on the bench as defense went on the field.



#### Varsity Soccer

8-2

5-1 conference

#### JV

11-1-3

Lake Central 1-2

Kankakee Valley 5-3

LaVie 2-0

Argos 2-1

Evansville Memorial

0-2

Lawrence North 0-2

Homeslead 1-2

Griffith 3-0

Valparaiso 3-2

Hobart 0-1

Michigan City 7-0

Highland 0-1

Merrillville 1-0

Andean 2-1

Crown Point 2-2

Lowell 4-2

Portage 0-1

Lake Central 1-0

Kankakee Valley

1-1

Zionsville Invite

Snider 0-0

Dwenger 1-1

Griffith 2-0

Valparaiso 1-0

Hobart 6-0

Michigan City

Marquette 3-0

Michigan City 1-0

Highland 1-0

Merrillville 4-0

Andean 5-0

Crown Point 0-1

Lowell 6-0

Portage 1-0



Girls' Varsity Soccer Team (front row) Kristi Carlson, Jenna Roller, Jessica Goodrich, Sarah Skertic, Emily Koufos, Stephanie Poulos, Allison Medina (second row) Kaitlyn Flores, Tessa McGuan, Olivia Koufos, Karen Gouvens, Allison Welch, Jenna Pagane, Eleni Aggelopoulos, Amanda Scott (back row) Coach John Fekete, Coach Val Pilum, Kristen Pagane, Kelly Schlotman, Leah Brousalis, Marisa Meneghetti, Madison Quenzler, Coach Tim Sopko, Coach Donna Sopko



Girls' JV Soccer Team (front row) Ines Tzolov, Marelle Cerven, Kori Kirby, Chelsea Roach, Camille Gonzalez, Andjela Radmilovic, Nina Ogrizovich (second row) Kaitlyn Hobbs, Gabby Sapva, Katie Dobis, Danielle Scully, Natalie Gouvens, Sarah Elders, Rachel Shmagranoff, Manager Courtney Lowry (back row) Coach Tim Sopko, Coach John Fekete, Gabby Roque, Brianna Meyer, Elizabeth Gouvens, Coach Valerie Pilum, Coach Donna Sopko



#### Sectionals

Gavit 9-1

Bishop Noll 6-1

Highland 1-2

#### Honors

Conference Champs

# by a long shot

Inexperienced team makes way to last round of Sectionals

**R**ain or shine, the girls gathered around on the field as Kristi Carlson, senior, stood in the middle shouting the "Red Dog" chant that had been passed down for years.

"After [the varsity] all huddled together, someone would get in the middle and yell, 'Who are we?' (we would answer) 'Red Dogs [Mustangs],' 'Who are we?' 'Red Dogs,' 'What are we going to do?' 'Win!'" Kaitlyn Flores, junior, said.

After losing seven starters to graduation, the responsibility for getting the team going fell to the girls with varsity experience. This allowed room for the young players to grow stronger. The young players learned confidence and how to keep up with the competition.

"They were thrown into a tough situation right away," Head Coach Tim Sopko, Wilbur Wright Middle School assistant dean, said. "We started with Lake Central, who was picked to be the top team in the area at the beginning of the season. We competed well, losing 2-1 in our first game. That gave a lot of [the] young players confidence in knowing they could step in and do very well at the varsity level."

The young players' internal motivation helped them play up to the varsity standards, according to Assistant Coach Valerie Pflum, math teacher. It

unraveled as a season to rebuild. The team managed to do a lot better than anyone ever hoped.

The girls won Conference and lost in the last round of Sectionals against Highland, 1-2.

"We played Highland during the season and in the Sectional Final," captain Leah Brousalis, junior, said. "We lost both times, but from our point of view, especially in the first game that we played them, it was an equally matched game and they ended up scoring in the last minute. We had finishing problems, but we definitely played a hard game, although, the results don't show that."

The girls' had outside help during these games from the fans that came out to cheer them to victory. The crowd influenced how they played, making the girls more energized, focused and pumped to play, according to captain Kristen Pagane, senior, and Brousalis.

"When people came out to watch us, we didn't want to disappoint them and the more the crowd got into the games, I think the more the players did," Brousalis said.

Motivated by their own chant and the chants of the crowd, the girls kept their focus to finish as the first Northwest Crossroads Conference Champs.

"You have to focus on who to pass the ball on to that it will help the team. You can't show emotion,"

Sarah Skertic, sophomore



**in for the steal**

Motivated by her aggression, Kelly Schlotman (3), sophomore, tries a steal against Hobart. "If things don't go how you plan, you're disappointed," Schlotman said. "You think 'what if I could have done this, then things could have been better', but when it comes to a win, you look at it as a whole team effort."



**on her toes**

While trying to maintain her balance, Allison Medina (29), senior, dribbles up the side. "During the game you're in the zone, it's only the coach and those on the field; you get really into it," Medina said. She recovered from the slide swipe from Hobart to continue her dribble.

**one on one**

Collecting a pass off, Leah Brousalis (7), junior, dribbles down the line. "I anticipated the play and kept my focus on what had to be done," Brousalis said. Once in control of the ball Leah headed for a one on one with Hobart where the girls came up short and lost to Hobart 0-1.



# Varsity Tennis

21-4

6-0 conference

Valparaiso 5-0  
Lowell 5-0  
Jasper 2-3  
Kankakee Valley 5-0  
Highland 4-1  
Penn 4-1  
West Lafayette 3-2  
Culver Academy 2-3  
Hobart 5-0  
Andean 5-0  
Griffith 5-0  
LaPorte Invite  
LaPorte 3-2  
Penn 2-3  
Lake Central 5-0  
Chesterton 5-0  
Merrillville JV Invite  
1<sup>st</sup> place  
Crown Point 5-0  
Merrillville 5-0

Post Season  
Sectionals  
Lake Central 5-0  
Morton 5-0  
Regionals  
Bishop Noll 5-0  
Crown Point 5-0  
Semi-State  
Warsaw 5-0  
Culver Academy  
2-3  
Honors  
Conference Champs  
Sectional Champs  
Regional Champs  
State Final 8  
Individual State  
Finals No. 1  
Doubles  
Austin Wynne/  
Pat Behrens

## move down the line

Motivated before the match, Austin Wynne, junior, high fives his teammates. "It showed team spirit," Wynne said. "Everyone from varsity to JV was on the team and we need-

ed everyone there to support us." After the team gave their high fives, Coach Lopez pumped them up for the match and gave the boys the will to win.



**Boys' Tennis** (front row) Eli Wilson, Nikhil Bhagwat, Aaditya Shah, Pat Behrens, Billy Heuer, Austin Wynne, Max Gershman (second row) Stephen Ong, Chris Chyung, Neil Kondamuri, Zak Trisch, Jacob Tepperman, Graham Hanas, Matt Steeve (third row) Sujay Jayakar, Vivek Dasari,

Chris Hlebasko, Aneesh Gupta, Viraj Maniar, Gorrett Mintz, Rohan Warriar, Danny Alexander (back row) Assistant Coach Sid Rothstein, Talha Qureshi, Santhosh Narayan, Anup Segu, James Chorrer, Steve Shih, Head Coach Steve Lopez, Abhinav Ravi, Assistant Coach Bill Karr



## time-out

Stressed out from the match, Eli Wilson, sophomore, takes a break. "I was just upset because I was not doing as well as I should have been," Wilson said. Stress got to Wilson once in a while, but it didn't hurt to take a break.

## down low

In between points, Pat Behrens, senior, and Austin Wynne, junior, congratulate each other. "We always tried to stay positive. If one of us was feeling down, the other one was there to tell us that we were okay," Wynne said. Behrens and Wynne won the match against Crown Point, 5-0, during Regionals and later made it to State, where they lost 3-6 to Bloomington South.



## power play

With racket in hand, No. 1 singles player Billy Heuer, junior, serves the ball. "If I'm going for [the serve] I'm going to make it so [the opponent] can't return it," Heuer said. Heuer tried to make the first points from the serve go in his favor. He won many awards including the Most Valuable Player at season's end.





#### In high gear

Pumped up, Viraj Maniar, junior, and Aaditya Shah, freshman, chest bump each other. "The chest bump was to pump everyone up and get excited," Maniar said. They chest bumped before every game.

#### stretch for a win

In the battle against Culver, Nikhil Bhagwat, sophomore, reaches out to return the point. "Culver was our toughest opponent," Bhagwat said. The boys lost to Culver twice during the season, 2-3.



## serving notice

Boys 'reload,'  
to earn trip  
to Semi-State

In large white letters, "RELOAD" ran across the back of the Boys' Tennis Team's bright red T-shirts.

After losing five out of the seven senior varsity players to graduation, the team strived to "reload."

"We were just trying to make the point that we lost a lot of senior varsity players last year," captain Billy Heuer, junior, said. "A lot of people said to 'rebuild,' but we have good players that could take their spots. We don't 'rebuild,' we 'reload.'"

Team members stepped in and filled different positions that best suited them. The team won both Sectionals and Regionals, 5-0. The three-hour-a-day practices and workouts at the gym throughout the year, including the off-season, proved successful. Their hard work and practice allowed the team to advance to Semi-State.

"We were hoping to win it," Assistant Coach Bill Karr said. "We had a really good chance. We had to get past the first round against Warsaw and then play Culver. They [Culver] had real good players and they were ranked higher than we were. Everyone had to be at their best."

At Semi-State, the team beat Warsaw, 5-0, in the first round. Then they faced Culver for the championship, where they lost, 2-3.

"Culver already played us earlier in the season," Coach Steve Lopez, histo-

ry teacher said. "We thought we would beat them either 3-2 or 4-1."

Despite the loss at Semi-State, the team marked it as a success.

"It wasn't a lack of determination," Jacob Tepperman, junior, said. "We played a team as good as us. We didn't accomplish the goal of getting to State, but we gave it our all and felt it was successful."

Even though the team lost at Semi-State, No. 1 Doubles team, Austin Wynn, junior, and captain Pat Behrens, senior, advanced to State. At State, Wynn and Behrens agreed that they got off to a really fast start during their match against Bloomington South.

"We were on fire," Wynn said. "We destroyed them [Bloomington South] in the first set, but they picked up their game in the second set."

Wynn and Behrens lost to Bloomington South in the end, 3-6.

"Overall it was a pleasant surprise for them [Behrens and Wynn], that the team [as a whole] didn't go to State, but they did," Coach Lopez said.

Most of the players viewed the entire season as a great success. "It was a great season," Behrens said. "We started off very inexperienced, myself included, but we improved greatly as the season went on."



"[Getting to Semi-State] was a big success, but I felt that we should have made it to State because we all did our part to make it there."

Max Gershman,  
sophomore

# within a spike's reach

Entering the post-season as Conference Champs, girls come up short at Sectionals

**W**ith the volleyball season wrapping up with a 33-3 record, the girls readied themselves for a unique end to the season, winning Conference and placing second at Sectionals.

"We practiced hard and our spirit showed on and off the court," captain Jessica Korda, senior, said. "We were all motivated to do well and strived to win and at least get to Conference."

The girls' winning streak in the beginning of the season set them for what they knew would be a successful season, according to Korda.

Korda was a key player in the season, according to Head Coach Bill Gray.

"The girls gave full effort 99% of the time. They would just go; they were that competitive."

Coach **Bill Gray**



"We wouldn't have gotten as far if it wasn't for Jess' role as captain," Kelly Wade, senior, said. "She was a very vocal leader. When she saw that you were struggling on the court, she knew exactly what to say to calm you down or

get you pumped up."

The biggest upset of the season came when the girls placed second at Sectionals, losing the last game to rival Lake Central, according to Korda.

"They were our biggest competition and having beaten them earlier in the season 3-1 made it worse when we lost to them at Sectionals," Korda said. Because the team won the first two Sectionals games, they counted on a win to make them Sectional champions. Their loss left a sore sting, but by the end of the night the girls felt happy that they had "at least" placed second, according to Lizzy Monell, senior.

"I guess we weren't as ready as we should have been," Monell said. "We thought we were going to beat Lake Central, but we just couldn't pull it together."

The team lost 0-3, but the Sectional disappointment did not ruin the girls' season, according to Wade, who described the season as "very fun."

"We always went onto the court with the mentality that it was fun," Wade said. "We always had fun on and off the court and took the wins and losses together, as a team. We were proud of our record and our successes."

The chemistry was there for the team to be close and bounce back from the Sectional loss, according to Monell.

The girls gave full effort 99 percent of the time, according to Coach Gray. They

#### spike down the competition

With a downward smack, Lizzy Monell, senior, sends the ball over the net. Although they didn't score that point, the girls finished off the game against Griffith 3-0. "It was a good shot; that was a fun game," Monell said after their fifth consecutive win.



#### in good spirits

With a pat on the back, Lizzy Monell, senior, beams after scoring against Lake Central. With the tendency to win home games, the girls won 3-1. "Lake Central was our biggest rival. It felt so good beating them early in the season," Monell said.

#### spirited stretch

Trying to block a hit from a Highland player, captain Jessica Korda, senior, jumps keeping the ball from going over the net, beating Highland 3-2. "It was a close game. We always came close with Highland," Korda said.



#### eye on the ball

With her hands set, captain Angie Toth, senior, prepares for a bump. "The ball came to me and I bumped it to another player to score the point," Toth said. The girls beat Hobart 3-0 at home.

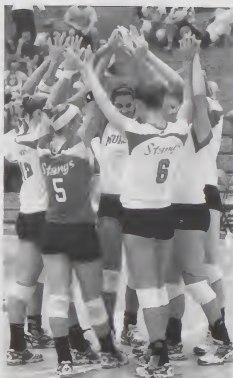






#### dig it

Face: scrunched, Eryn Whiting, junior, crouches down for a save. "I was digging, a hit to keep the other team from scoring. I saved it from hitting the ground," Whiting said. The team went on to beat Lowell 3-0.



#### hands up

Hands in the air, the girls take a moment to huddle before a match. A ritual before every match, the girls shout to show their spirit to the other team and to boost their energy, according to captain Angie Toth, senior.



**Girls' Varsity Volleyball Team** (front row) Katie Palmer, Abbey Brokop, Lindsey Ziembka, Lizzy Monell, Jessica Korda, Angie Toth, Kelly Wade, Kellie Nadrowski, (second row) Coach Jenny Herold, Jessica DeBoer, Coach Don Fortner, Anna Dorn, Toni Michalski, Coach Bill Gray, Taylor Lee, Coach Janet Worries, (back row) Eryn Whiting, Laura Matula, Kylie Morris.



**Girls' Junior Varsity Volleyball Team** (front row) Kellie Nadrowski, Rachel Morrow, Molly Scott, Kristin Brap, Angelina Mandich, Ellen Crilly, Alex Doctor, Katie Palmer, (second row) Coach Janet Worries, Becky Holt, Coach Bill Gray, Stephanie Dwaes, Heather Boyan, Coach Don Fortner, Jessica DeBoer, Coach Jenny Herold, (back row) Christina Pasky, Kylie Morris, Chris Liss.



**Girls' Freshman Volleyball Team** (front row) Katie Palmer, Hannah Leary, Jenna Cecil, Lauren Johnson, Kayla Madura, Kristina Traxler, Elizabeth Vadas, Kellie Nadrowski, (second row) Coach Bill Gray, Alyssa Schweitzer, Coach Jenny Herold, Tiffany Madura, Alexandra Fimbianti, Coach Janet Worries, Paige Spinks, Coach Don Fortner, (back row) Liz Lewandowski, Samantha Salzeder, Shelby Samowski.

#### Varsity Volleyball

- 12-0 conference
- Calumet 3-0
- Crown Point 3-0
- Valparaiso 3-1
- Lake Central 3-1
- Griffith 3-0
- Lowell 3-0
- Lopansport Invite
- Noblesville 2-0
- Manchester 2-0
- Lopansport 2-0
- SB Wash. 2-0
- Andean 3-2
- Hobart 3-0
- Highland 3-2
- Portage 3-1
- Kankakee Valley 3-0
- Lafayette Tournay
- Honestad 2-0
- Elkhart Mem. 0-2
- Fl. Wayne Snider 2-1
- Fl. Wayne Carroll 2-1
- Griffith 3-0
- Lowell 3-0
- Crown Point Invite
- Crown Point 2-0
- East Kentwood, MI 0-2
- Sturgis, MI 2-0
- Plymouth 2-0
- Wheeler 3-0
- Morton 2-0
- Andean 3-1
- SB St. Joe 3-1
- Hobart 3-0
- Highland 3-1
- Kankakee Valley 3-0
- Gavit 3-0
- Gary West 3-0
- East Chicago 3-0
- Lake Central 0-3

#### JV Volleyball

- 24-2
- 11-1 conference
- Calumet 2-0
- Crown Point 2-0
- Valparaiso 2-0
- Lake Central 2-1
- Griffith 2-0
- Lowell 1-2
- Andean 2-0
- Hobart 2-0
- Mount Carmel Invite
- Michigan City 2-0
- Kankakee Valley 2-0
- Fort Wayne Snider 2-0
- Warsaw 2-0
- Highland 2-0
- Griffith 2-0
- Lowell 2-0
- Wheeler 2-0
- Morton 2-0
- Andean 2-0
- South Bend St. Joe 0-2
- Hobart 2-0
- Highland 2-0
- Kankakee Valley 2-0
- Gavit 2-0

#### Frosh Volleyball

- 29-4
- 11-1 conference
- Calumet 2-0
- Crown Point 2-0
- Valparaiso Invite
- Bishop Noll 2-0
- Highland 1-2
- Boone Grove 2-0
- Lake Central 2-0
- Griffith 2-0
- Lowell 2-0
- Andean 2-0
- Hobart 2-0
- Highland 2-0
- Highland 2-0
- Hammond 2-0
- Portage 2-0
- Kankakee Valley 2-0
- Clark 2-0
- Griffith 2-0
- Bishop Noll 2-0
- Lowell 2-0
- Wheeler 2-0
- Morton 2-0
- Andean 2-0
- Lake Central Tournay
- Hobart 2-0
- Highland 0-2
- Kankakee Valley 2-0
- Gavit 2-0
- Marian Tournay
- Maun 0-2
- Oaklawn 2-0
- TF South 2-0
- Lincolwood 2-0
- Andrews 2-0



# stand and deliver

Cheerleaders defeat negative stereotypes with work and determination

**H**ey Stangs! We want to hear you yell, 'go Red, go White!' cheerleaders chanted as they pepped up the football and basketball teams, and energetic fans who came to the games.

Cheerleading season ran all year as the girls practiced at least every Monday and Thursday to prep for games and competitions. When competition time came around, the practices became daily.

"Practices were difficult during competition season because they were tiring and you were constantly stunting and using energy," Kelly Wold, junior, said.

The girls took first place at their competition in Indianapolis.

"When we placed, it was very exciting," Alyssa Adcock, junior, said. "I was very proud of myself and the girls."

Fighting the stereotype that cheerleading is not a

sport and that the girls do not work hard, the team worked to perfect their moves while balancing friends, work and school, according to Wold.

#### break it up

At the sidelines, captain Taylor Brian, senior, claps her hands together. "Football games were my favorite," Brian said. "The atmosphere was great, and the crowds got into it." The girls were responsible for whipping up the crowds to support the teams.

"People misjudged us by thinking we were annoying and that cheerleading wasn't a sport," Stephanie Mirabelli, junior, said. "I wish people could see that cheerleading takes hard work and it's a very long season."

To raise funds to pay for uniforms and competition expenses. The girls sold taffy apples around Homecoming, and sponsored the winter Turnabout. The girls also hosted a kids' camp for girls in grades K-5. The cheerleaders taught the youngsters what they needed to know about cheerleading, according to Megan McKechnie, senior.

"We taught them cheers, chants, tumbling, jumps and stunting," Mirabelli said. "The camp was to raise money for competitions."

Stunting, where the girls throw each other into the air and held each other up, became Mirabelli's and Wold's favorite activity.

The girls also voted for end-of-the-season awards. McKechnie won the Spirit Award.

"All of the girls voted on the cheerleader who displayed the most excitement and best attitude," captain Taylor Brian, senior, said. "We chose Megan [McKechnie] because she had the best attitude and was always smiling."

#### frozen in motion

On the court during halftime, Alyssa Adcock, junior, cheers, despite an ankle injury. "I injured my ankle during the season," Adcock said. "It didn't stop me from cheering, though." Like many athletes, several girls suffered minor injuries throughout the season.

#### thumbs up

At the sidelines, Kristi Roser, sophomore, gives a thumbs up with Kelly Wold and Stephanie Mirabelli, juniors. "I liked how close all of us got by the end of the year," Mirabelli said. The girls joked around during games to keep spirits up between cheers.



Kayla Smith, freshman





#### pull a stunt

Arms stretched, Kelly Wold, junior, stands at the top of a stunt cheering for the Boys' Basketball Team. "This year was my first year on top of the stunt," Wold said. "It's something to get used to and takes a lot of practice." Trust was key in stunting, according to Wold.

#### tossed up

At half time, the freshman squad stunts as part of their routine. "It was a lot of fun doing the routines and stunts," Chelsea Aidonovich, freshman, said. Tossing girls in the air was a regular part of their routine.



**Varsity Cheerleaders** (front row) Debbie Wilczynski, Taylor Brian, Cassandra Drillas, (second row) Alyssa Adcock, Stephanie Mirabelli, Kelly Wold, Emily Whiting, (back row) Mattie Velasquez, Elizabeth Stone, Lindsey Hayes, Megan McKechnie, Nicole Raynor.



**JV Cheerleaders** (front row) Erica Case, Erica Keeler, (second row) Lis Klisser, Lauren McGill, Shailee Kumer, (back row) Leslie Salisbury, Ali Blanchard, Kristi Roser, Katie Silaj.



**Freshman Cheerleaders** (front row) Megan Simmons, Georgenna Chioros, Kayla Smith, (second row) Chelsea Aidonovich, Amber Callahan, (back row) Alecia LaRock, Katie Taylor, Brittany Bermingham.

#### a striking pose

Performing the Pom routine, senior Lauren Tanzillo, and juniors Molly Tribou and Tanya Djuric strike a pose. "Performing was the only reason I stayed on the team," Tanzillo said. The girls couldn't place at their own invite, but they used it to compare themselves with the competition.



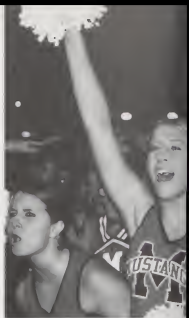
#### all hands in

Just before performing the Dance Team routines together for a last minute pep talk. "We would talk about having fun and just going out their doing our best," Jackie Kovach, senior, said. Once inspired the girls took the floor and did what they did best, dance.



#### full spirited

Making noise, sophomores Lainey Williams and Kristen Siaboski and Amanda Porter, junior, show their football spirit on the sidelines. "You have to be right up close to the action and support the football team," Williams said. The girls cheered loud at every game to show support.



## head over heels

With only a varsity team, girls set priorities on State

**H**eads bowed and smiles plastered on their faces, the Dance Team prepared for their performance. Minds focused and goals in sight, the girls danced their way to State.

"State is most important," Nicole Montella, sophomore, said. "It's the last competition for the season and we work all year to do well at State."

With priorities set, the girls focused on perfecting their routines in all three categories: poms, hip-hop and jazz.

"We got a new jazz choreographer who gave us a new, more modern style," Tanya Djuric, junior, said. "We struggled with it in the beginning because we each



"We became really close friends, the girls on the team, and all the hard work paid off during competition season."

Olivia Harris  
freshman

interpreted it differently and we had to synchronize our moves in order for it to work."

The girls finished 2nd at State in jazz.

The jazz choreography wouldn't be the only new adjustment. The team became one, with only a varsity squad since not enough girls tried out. The girls

had to reach each other's levels.

"At the beginning with the new girls, it was rough trying to meet each other's levels of dance styles," Djuric said. "As the year went on we came together as one, complimenting one another."

The girls had a lot to live up to this season. They usually didn't perform

well in jazz, but with the new routine the girls sought the chance to perform to their potential, according to captain Shelby Taylor, junior.

The dancers proved that their dedication paid off at the Homestead Invitational where they finished 1st in hip-hop and 2nd in poms and jazz.

"These were our best scores of the season," Taylor said. "We were less than a point from beating Lake Central in jazz."

The girls practiced year round, three days a week for 2 1/2 hours and every day the week before Regionals and State.

"We got down to business, worked hard, got stuff done and fine tuned every detail of our routine," Djuric said.

With a balance of fun and work, the girls danced through Regionals where they took 1st place all around.

"They all wanted to win and they were willing to put in the extra hours needed to make the routines," Coach Heidi O'Rourke, said.

However, the smiles faded at State when the girls placed 2nd in jazz and hip-hop and 3rd in poms. The team walked off disappointed, expecting to repeat as State Champions in hip-hop.

"We felt let down that we didn't get [1st in hip hop], but we were glad that we got 2nd in jazz which showed that we pulled it off."

#### bottoms up

While dancing to their hip hop routine, the girls balanced themselves on their head as their partner swung them around. "It was the best hip hop routine we've ever had and it was fun because of its new style, which was different from last year's routine," Shelby Taylor, junior, said. "We never complained when we had to do it."





Dance Team: (front row) Shelby Taylor, Lauren Lanzillo, Brittany Zehner, Jackie Kovach, Ryanne Abraham (second row) Amanda Porter, Molly Tribou, Nicole Montella, Emily Speckman, Kristen Slaboski, Megan Nowaczyk (back row) Elizabeth Leslie, Rebecca Bernard, Taylor Marcus, Rizzie Fisher, Tanya Djuric, Lainey Williams, Olivia Harris

## Dance Team

### Lake Central Invite

Poms: 3rd  
Jazz: 1st  
Hip Hop: 1st

### Homestead Invite

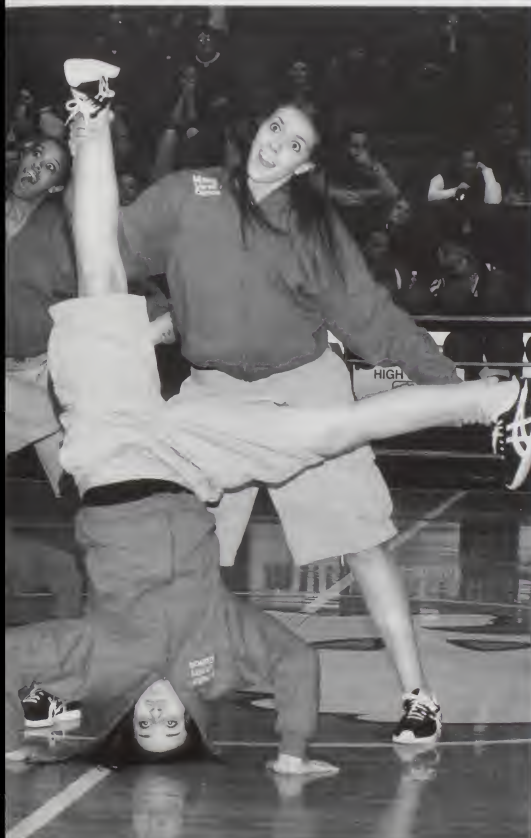
Poms: 2nd  
Jazz: 2nd  
Hip Hop: 1st

### Regionals

Pom: 1st  
Jazz: 1st  
Hip Hop: 1st

### State

Poms: 3rd  
Jazz: 2nd  
Hip Hop: 2nd



### fly high

While performing their jazz routine Tanya Djuric, junior, takes a grand jet to the front. "Jazz was one of my favorite routines, because it was different from what we did in the past," Djuric said. The team continued to refine the jazz routine with minor changes up until State.

### on point

Practising at their Eads dance studio, Amanda Porter, junior, works on her fan kick. "At first, it was tiring, but we needed the practice," Porter said. The girls performed their jazz routine at competitions and during half time to help prepare for State.



# above and beyond

Young team  
overcomes  
odds with 14

consecutive wins

**S**hoes squeaked down the court as captain Krste Ruiz, junior, made a complete turn around on Kankakee Valley's defense in order to break free for a shot.

"We played well as a team and pulled our acts together," Krste Ruiz said. "We put the ball in the hoop."

The Boys' Varsity Basketball Team defeated Kankakee Valley, 102-46, and continued to put the ball in the hoop ending their season with 14 consecutive

wins, the best in the region. However, the boys didn't start out on top.

At the beginning of the season the guys ran into some trouble, losing five of their first seven games by six points or less: Hanover Central, 56-61; Gary

Wirt, 59-61; Lake Central, 36-37; Chesterton 55-61; and with the exception of East Chicago Central, 43-58.

In the game against Chesterton, the boys came out ahead in the 4th

quarter, before they lost. The game, still considered a success, showed the team that they had potential, according to Head Coach Mike Hackett, health teacher.

"We were young with no varsity experience [except for Brandon Ruiz, senior; Krste Ruiz, junior; and Joe "Bubba" Gill, junior], so it took about seven games to realize what made a win at the varsity level," Coach Hackett said.

When they finally realized what it took to make it at the varsity level, the boys appeared unstoppable. They dribbled the ball and pushed on through.

"We became determined to turn [the season] around," Coach Hackett said. "We practiced harder and concentrated more."

With this new determination, the boys' hard practices paid off as their season took off. The team shot straight into the net for one of the longest winning streaks in the area.

"Our biggest influence was to prove we could [be successful] even as a young team," Krste Ruiz said.

The season turned out as unexpected, according to forward Brian Stolarz, freshman. Not many people thought

*continued on page 133*

"The season was satisfying. We came a long way from where we started to where we ended up. We made a lot of progress."

Coach

Mike Hackett



#### mid dribble

On his way down the base line, Jeff Lucas (4), junior, forces his dribble through Lake Central. "Playing LC was exciting. There's always a lot of energy in those games," Lucas said. Although Lucas found breaks in the defense, the boys lost 36-37.

#### catch and release

After realizing he couldn't make any solid moves himself, Brandon Ruiz (33), senior, decides passing the ball off would be the best move. "I was comfortable and confident to make a good move," Ruiz said. Although he chose the wisest moves, the guys lost to Lake Central 36-37.





#### up for grabs

In the air Alex McGuire (20), junior, secures a rebound on Griffith. "We were a better team and wanted the win more," McGuire said. "We did a good job on defense rebounding which helped win us the game." The boys scored 80 over Griffith's 55.



#### layup

Up against a Griffith block Joe "Bubbs" Gill (50), junior, forces a lay-up. "You shot on impulse, there wasn't much time to think," Gill said. Making his shot, Gill helped the team win 80-55.

#### spirit line

In their charge onto the court, the boys pass through the line of spirit, part of another game tradition. "It gets everyone excited for the game as the crowd goes wild," Jeff Lucas (4), junior, said. The boys ran around the sidelines and then began their warm ups.



**Boys' Varsity Basketball Team** (front row) Branden Ruiz, Jeff Lucas, Krste Ruiz, Kyle Ruiz, Tony DiCostanzo (second row) Drew Hackett, Brian Stolarz, Alex McGuire, Seth Flahaven, Joe Gill, Matt Gaskey, A.J. Spolnik, Luke Hackett (back row) John Doherty, Jake Argenta, Jeff Tucker, Mike Hackett, Kevin Skurka, Greg Luskich, Mike Mikolajczyk

#### Varsity Boys' Basketball

16-6

6-0 conference

Hanover Central 56-61  
Hammond 79-66  
Morton 55-45  
East Chicago 43-58  
Gary Wirt 59-61  
Lake Central 36-37  
Chesterton 56-61  
Gavit 62-41  
Kankakee Valley 102-46  
Highland 71-41  
Clark 63-58  
Hobart 60-45  
Lowell 53-32  
Valparaiso 45-37  
Griffith 80-55  
Merrillville 49-46  
Gary Westside 56-54  
Andean 73-58

Calumet 53-43  
Gary Wallace 71-50

**Sectionals**  
Highland 52-34  
East Chicago 45-60

**Honors**  
Conference Champs  
Coach Mike Hackett:  
Times Coach of the Year

**First Team**  
All Conference  
Brian Stolarz  
Krste Ruiz  
Joe Gill

#### over defense

On a drive Kyle Ritz (11), sophomore, passes the ball out. "In the games I was in the zone," Ritz said. Quick decisions helped the boys beat Griffith 80-55.



#### giant competition

During a free throw Alex McGuire (20), junior, keeps his eyes on E.C. Central's Angel Garcia (44). "I was excited to guard him because he's going to play basketball for Memphis, a division one school," McGuire said. Although McGuire kept up his guard, the boys lost 45-60 at Sectionals.



#### JV

20-0

#### 6-0 conference

Hanover Central 62-19  
Hammond 47-28  
Morton 37-26  
East Chicago 36-34  
Gary Wirt 54-16  
Lake Central 55-36  
Chesterton 31-25  
Gavit 45-19  
Kankakee Valley 65-32  
Highland 51-26  
Clark 52-24  
Hobart 44-31  
Lowell 52-18  
Valparaiso 43-35  
Griffith 55-38  
Merrillville 37-35  
Gary West 48-34  
Andean 51-23  
Calumet 69-18  
Gary Wallace 50-38



Boys' JV Basketball Team (front row) Joe Crisman, Simon Webb, Angel Murillo, Mike Phipps, Kevin Watterson (middle row) Kevin Skurka, Brandon Pluard, Zach Vega, Jake Argentina (back row) Josh Lukosbus, Larry Allen, Joel Brumm, Garrett Broadnax, Justin Gill

#### Freshman A

17-2

#### 6-0 conference

Gary Wallace 49-32  
Lowell 47-20  
Highland 47-24  
Clark 43-21  
Morton 34-20  
Hobart 43-40  
Portage 40-38  
Lake Central 32-26  
Bishop Noll 46-34  
Gary Roosevelt 46-39  
Griffith 49-29  
Hammond 60-56  
East Chicago 36-39  
Andean 35-26  
Highland Trry/  
Lake Central 36-23  
Crown Point 36-23  
Merrillville 37-31  
Calumet 54-25  
Valparaiso 25-28

#### Freshman B

6-1 conference

Gary Wallace 34-32  
Hobart 55-16  
Portage 46-34  
Lake Central 44-42  
Griffith 37-12  
Merrillville 37-32  
Valparaiso 25-28



Boys' Freshman Basketball Team (front row) George Kanovos, Kyle Papesh, Evan Sylvestor, Christian Young, Mike Potts, Nate Eagan (middle row) Mike Mikolajczyk, Matt Krueger, Jimmy Hinkleman, Ricky Carbach, John Cristo, Danny Faloon, Greg Lukisch (back row) Ben Jones, Jeff Lawler, Luke Kurovski, Jake Osterman, Jake Cundiff

#### open shot

After a pass off from a teammate Brian Stolarz (23), freshman, takes his shot. "My teammates always set me up with good passes where I wanted the ball, so all I had to do was catch and shoot," Stolarz said. Stolarz made the three and the boys beat Andean 73-58.

#### standing tall

Lined up before every game, the team along with the crowd pay tribute to the America during the pledge. "It was a part of the game ritual," A.J. Spolnik (40), junior, said. "It helped us get set for the game." Once the pledge ended, the players took their positions on the court for the tip off.



# above and beyond

continued from page 130

the team would turn their 2-5 starting record into a 14-game winning streak, ending the season, 16-6.

The boys proved their talent throughout the season battling some of the top teams, such as Merrillville, who had only lost two or three games. They used Merrillville as barometer, to see if they passed the cut off for their level of game, according to Coach Hackett. The boys passed, 49-46, and reached their 9th win.

Some of the team's greatest accomplishments turned out to be the win over Merrillville and West Side, as well as earning the Northwest Crossroads Conference Champions title, according to forward Brandon Ruiz.

The squeak of the basketball shoes on the court ended when the boys' turn around came to a halt against East Chicago Central at Sectionals. The boards that helped lead the team to 14 consecutive victories also ended their streak when they lost to EC Central, 45-60.

## hip to hip

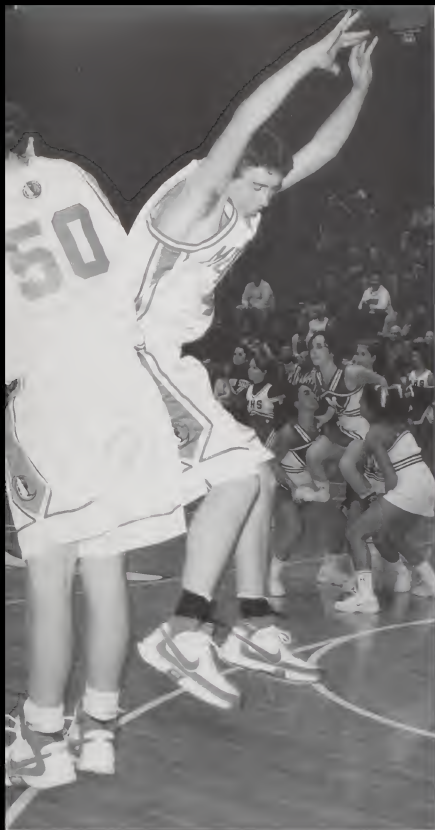
As introductions are announced over the speakers, juniors Jeff Lucas and Joe Gill keep the tradition of the bump. "I anticipated the game and [the bump] helped us focus on what was to come," Joe Gill (50) junior, said. After the bump the boys set up on the court

## down on the paint

On the ground Zach Vega (32), sophomore, drives for the ball. "I worked hard to get steals because it helps out the team," Vega said. Missing this steal, the JV boys still beat Lake Central 53-36.

"[On the court] you were constantly looking for the best move to help out the team."

Tony DiCostanzo,  
junior



## caught on guard

On the look out Kiste Ruiz (2), junior, hesitates for a moment. "I felt in control of the game when I had the ball," Ruiz said. Finding a break in the defense he drove to the net to score.



#### off to the side

Sitting along the side lines, Amanda Scott (22, senior) takes a break with Coach Davidson. "I'm a very competitive person," Scott said. "[Basketball] always has you on your toes, and you don't know what to expect."



#### on the look out

With the Valparaiso player trying to stop the pass, Alex Fimbianti (14), freshman, protects the ball. "I was so nervous because it was my first game on varsity," Fimbianti said. "It felt good to be on varsity because it was as if all my hard work paid off."



#### drive it in

As the other team closes in, Kristin Brajak (11), sophomore, drives the ball towards the basket. "Practicing drills helped us prepare for the competition," Brajak said. "We were beat by a lot, but it didn't bring us down." The girls lost to Valparaiso 31-47.



#### Varsity Basketball 10-12

##### 4-1 conference

Valparaiso 31-47

Chesterlton 44-52

Andean 31-28

Tippy Valley Tourney

FW Elmhurst 44-62

Central Noble 34-51

Lake Central 46-39

Hobart 52-49 OT

Gavit 36-15

Lowell 47-40

Gary West 44-47

Griffith 34-33

Merrillville 29-72

Calumet 47-58

Penn 29-52

Morton 53-38

Kankakee Valley 57-41

Highland 35-43

East Chicago 58-46

TF North 36-63

Portage 34-74

#### Sectionals

East Chicago 55-39

Lake Central 41-56



Girls' Varsity Basketball Team (front row) Mgr. Courtney Drobas, Mgr. Michelle Munday, Brianne Rubesha, Amanda Scott, Kristen Pagane, Molly Scott, Mgr. Patti Pfister, Mgr. Alyssa Salata (second row) Coach Mike Megyesi, Leigh Fimbianti, Coach Jim Davidson, Coach Chris Tomosi, Alex Fimbianti, Coach Bob Shinkan (back row) Sarah Posey, Colleen Shaw, Kristin Brajak, Kara Curosh



# easier said than done

Girls experience season filled with change and tight chemistry

**W**ith the final seconds flashing brightly, Kristin Brajak, sophomore, shot to make one more basket. The ball teetered on the rim, holding hope of a winning chance. With tension rising, the ball fell away as the buzzer rang.

The varsity girls seemed to come up one basket short with a 10-12 record, but they had to adjust to several changes. The team came into the season with a new head coach, Coach Jim Davidson, industrial technology teacher, and new ways of approaching their game.

"I think [the best part of the season] was being with the team players and growing together since it was my first season as head coach," Coach Davidson said. "Seeing them deal with a new coach was a tough change, especially for seniors since they were used to everything from last season."

Changes also included the lack of a team captain for the girls.

"I think [our advantage] was that we didn't have a star player," Coach Davidson said. "Not having a captain gave everyone a chance to be the star of the game. It just depended on if they took advantage of the situation."

Without a team captain, the girls needed to depend on each other in order to achieve success.

#### break through

With ball secured tightly, Brienne Rubesha (13), junior, searches for an open player to pass the ball. "At the last minute I made a layup to Kara Curosh," Rubesha said. "The biggest moment was when she made two free throws to put us ahead." The girls defeated Andean in a 31-28 victory.

"I've learned that I can rely on any of these girls for help," Brajak said. "We're all like sisters and I would do anything for any of them."

The girls watched videos of their previous games in order to see what they did right and wrong. Shooting proved to be the team's biggest weakness, according to Coach Davidson.

"We just didn't have the confidence to shoot," Coach Davidson said. "I had girls who were told not to shoot in the past because of their role on the team, and we had to beat that attitude out of their brains and encourage them to take those open shots."

With all the self-improvements made, the team finished second in Conference.

"I wanted to help my team be as good as we could," Brajak said. "I wanted to put in as much effort as possible, and use our hard work and be successful."

Hard work led the team to Sectionals against East Chicago and Lake Central. Sectionals remained on the team's home court, which affected how the girls played.

*continued on page 136*

#### bound forward

Against Valparaiso during their first game, Leigh Fimbriante (33), junior, goes for the rebound above the opposing players. "If we didn't rebound, we would have had fewer chances to score," Fimbriante said. "It was our first game, and we didn't have the best rhythm, but later on we started to work better as a team."

"We didn't finish the season the way we wanted to."

Colleen Shaw  
senior



## easier said than done

continued from page 130

"I liked having [Sectionals] here because we had our fans and we felt comfortable about where we were playing," Kara Curosh, sophomore, said.

The girls' Sectional dreams stopped short in their second round against Lake Central with a 41-56 loss.

"We had our ups and downs," Coach Davidson said. "We had a successful season, even though we didn't accomplish what we wanted."

Although season goals were not fully accomplished, something formed through the girls. Relationships developed throughout the season by talking with each other before games or talking through inner issues.

"We were a very tight team," Amanda Scott, senior, said. "We had a lot of chemistry, which we hadn't had in the past two years and that was because a lot of us had been playing basketball together

er since we were really young."

Even as the buzzer rang and the ball didn't drop, the girls still smiled in the end knowing that they relied on each other in the end.

### throw down

Quickly thinking Kara Curosh, sophomore, passes the ball to a teammate. "I think, [the team] became much stronger defensively," Curosh said. "We just wanted to be better than what people expected us to be."

### giving pointers

During a time-out, Coach Davidson gives advice on the next play. "I think I react worse than the girls at a loss because it reflects on me as a coach," Coach Davidson said. "After a loss, I'll do anything in my power to reverse that."

"There were a few struggles, but they made us grow as a team."

Sarah Posey,  
junior





#### crunch time

At the buzzer, Kristin Brajak (11), sophomore, tries to land a basket. "I hoped that the ball would go in," Brajak said. "I felt like after the game, we put in a lot of effort. We weren't the best team, but we learned a lot from our losses." Brajak had the most points per game with 11.1 ppg, according to statistics from Coach Davidson.



#### in focus

With eyes focused on her goal, Amanda Scott (22), senior, drives towards the team's basket. "I think that I do my best in all the games," Scott said. "One game I might do better offensively. One game I might do better defensively. It just happens. I put my all into every game." Scott had the most assists per game, according to statistics from Coach Davidson.

#### aim high

In the heat of the game, Colleen Shaw (55), senior, shoots in hopes of making a basket. "We didn't win Sectionals, which we wanted to," Shaw said. Shaw led the team in the first Sectional round against East Chicago with 14 points.



#### Junior Varsity

15-6  
Valparaiso 19-31  
Chesterton 23-22  
Andean 42-41  
Lake Central 28-46  
Hobart 28-23  
Gavit 50-17  
Lowell 37-15  
Gary West 33-26  
Griffith 38-27  
Merrillville 34-33  
Lowell JV Tournament  
Calumet 53-13  
Merrillville 36-23  
Calumet 38-18  
Penn 36-47  
Morton 32-22  
Kankakee Valley 29-25  
Highland 22-29 OT  
East Chicago 39-18  
TF North 28-44  
Portage 28-20

#### Freshmen

11-4  
Hobart 31-21  
Lake Central 4-61  
Andean 32-20  
Bishop Noll 38-8  
Lowell 25-11  
Highland 18-36  
Gavit 23-22  
Morton 50-2  
Kankakee Valley 37-22  
Andean Tournament  
Laporte 28-26  
Chesterton 28-22  
Portage 43-26  
Highland 33-42  
Valparaiso 18-26  
Merrillville 34-17



Girls' Junior Varsity Basketball Team (front row) Jennifer Walton, Molly Scott, Nina Ogrizovich, Jessica Goodrich (back row) Elodie Enger, Courtney Wagner, Kathryn Merritt, Coach Bob Shinkan, Alex Fimbianti, Carrie Frank



Girls' Freshman Basketball Team (front row) Ariel Callahan, Julie Puvogel, Paige Kyriakos, Kaelyn Toth (back row) Angelique Zadrozny, Becky Holt, Gabriella Roque, Coach Mike Megyesi, Gabrielle Sappta, Jenna P'agane

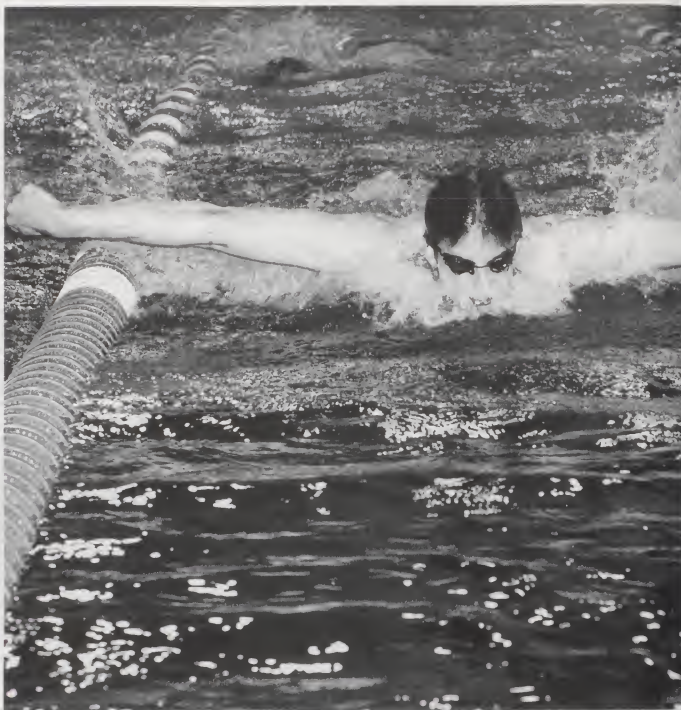


# forced through

At practice, Kevin Behrens, freshman, makes his way down the lane. "At the end of the day everyone's excited because school was over, but we're not," Behrens said. "We still had 2 1/2 hours of practice." The swim team practiced at 5:30 a.m. before school and until 5:30 p.m. after school.

# up in air

Before a dive, Matt Poulos, sophomore, hurdles to gain height. "[Swimming was] something to do, it was way harder than people thought," Poulos said. Once he gained the right height, Poulos continued with his dive.



# Boys' Swimming

10-1

6-0 conference

Penn 132.5-52.5

Griffin 140-36

Munster Relays 1st

Kankakee Valley 149-37

Valparaiso 126-50

Lowell 138-44

Lake Central 115-71

Highland Invite 3rd

South Bend Riley 124-61

Hobart/ Andean 144-38

Highland 135-45

Merrillville 119-66

Chesterton 80-106

NCC Meet 1st

Post Season

Sectional 1st

State 6th

Honors

Conference Champions

Sectional Champions

200 Medley Relay

200 Free-Cory Bandura

(Sectional and Pool Record)

200 Individual Medley-Joe Wulf

100 Fly- Kevin Behrens

(Sectional and Pool Record)

200 Freestyle Relay

100 Back- Kevin Behrens

400 Freestyle Relay

(Pool and Sectional Record)



Varsity Boys' Swim (front row) Max Kilbarda, Jacob Smith, Dillon Thompson, Kevin Behrens, Frank Rapin, Joshua Martin, Casey King. (second row) Drake Haulaire, Jack Gallagher, Joey Belkairous, Patrick O'Brian, John Gaskill, Joseph Wulf, Nick Brown, Sheldon Suggs, Mike Cap, Patrick Raycroft. (third row) Sean Georgas, Sean Tomazin, Adam Mayer, Corey Bandura, Zachary Wallar, Dan Linnear, Greg Meyer, Murray Crabtree, Travis Kmetz, Coach Morgan Nolan. (fourth row) Andrew Drudge, Adam Belkairous, Christopher Cheng, Michael Goldenberg, Tommy Bassetto, Brandon Zoppetti, Alan Flowers, Coach Janel Tobias. (back row) Matt Thompson, Joe O'Brien, Sonny Marcetie, Eric Anderson, Andrew Kaminski, Dan Boyle, Harrison Hernandez, Nick Yi, T. Matt Poulos, Coach Robin Tobias.



# catching a breath

As he glides through the water during his freestyle, captain Matt Thompson, senior, takes a breath. "[I would tell myself] just don't mess up and do the best you can do," Thompson said. Thompson felt most motivated during freestyle, his favorite event.

# back it up

On lap 10, captain Andrew Kaminski, senior, works on his backstroke. "Matt Thompson and I tried to be good examples at practice by always giving our best, and we always tried to keep the team motivated," Kaminski said.

# reaching their stride

Boys win 23rd consecutive Sectional title, place 6th at State

**I**ncreasingly deafening cheers from fans, teammates and coaches threatened to drown out the pounding of arms driving into the water as Patrick Raycroft, sophomore, stroked his way down lane 6 to the finish line at the Chesterton meet.

"During the meets the rivalry was so intense," Raycroft said. "Everyone was so intense from all the anticipation and build up and the crowd."

Through each strenuous lap and plunging dive during the season, boys' swimming dedicated its time and effort to improvement.

Diving into the frigid water at 5:25 a.m. every school morning for an hour and a half, two hours every weekday afternoon and two hours on Saturdays helped prepare the boys for competition.

Snow and freezing temperatures during Winter Break did not stop the boys either. The boys practiced everyday except for Christmas and Sundays.

"We were together for five hours a day. It helped us bond," captain Matt Thompson, senior, said. "Thinking about Sectionals and State [made it worthwhile]."

The goal of drowning out the competition proved attainable with their 15-1 record. With a reorganization of

the northern conferences, the team competed in the first ever Northwest Crossroads Conference (NCC), capturing 1st place in all 12 events.

Kevin Behrens, freshman, and Corey Bandura, junior, helped dominate the lanes in both the NCC meet and others.

"It was exciting," Head Coach Robin Tobias, Assistant Dean said. "It showed we've got promise for the future and a promising team."

Between catching breaths in the humid pool area, the boys built alliances together on and off-season. Traditions strengthened with the "ancient" team ritual of head shaving, according to Coach Tobias.

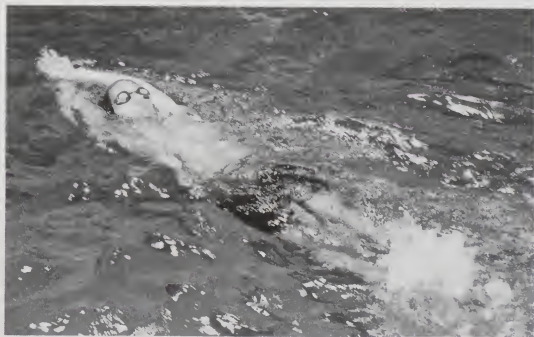
Team cohesiveness extended beyond the swimming pool with post meet celebrations at Munster Gyros and soccer matches during the summer, according to Daniel Linnear, junior, and Sean Georgas, junior.

"There's a good sense of friendship and no grudges. Everyone's like a family," Greg Meyer, junior, said. "We'd rely on each other. The good competition brought us together."



"The practices were always hard, but you got used to them. You were more tired when you were out of practice."

Corey Bandura, junior



Loud and proud

Hands cupped around their mouths seniors Andrew Kaminski, Matt Thompson and Sonny Marcette pump up their teammates for the upcoming meet. "For the big meets, the week before, I just told the team to relax and prepare," Thompson said.

## Girls' Swimming

9-2

6-0 conference

Penn 97-89

Hobart 150-27

Crown Point 75-111

Highland 130-52

Griffith 140-36

Kankakee Valley 127-56

Valparaiso 117-67

Lowell 124-61

Lake Central 106-80

Highland Invite 3rd

NCC Meet 1st

Merrillville 117-69

Chesterton 92-94

Post Season

Sectionals 2nd

State 20th

Honors

Conference Champions

Sectionals Champions

200 Medley Relay Nina and

Tashi Damjanovich, Stacey

Wierman, Sarah Sikora

200 Individual Medley

Tashi Damjanovich

Diving Anna Benman:

100 Fly Sarah Sikora 400

Freestyle Relay Elaine

Pittas, Tashi Damjanovich,

Lyndsey Kunz and Stacey

Wierman)

Girls' Swimming and Diving (front row) Cassie Pakan, Emily Scholtz, Jari Dominguez, Sarah Sikora, Lyndsey Kunz, Gabby Raper, Elaine Pittas, Tamara Marcetic (second row) Mary Benman, Ximena Fernandez-de Cordova, Shrin Kamalipour, Nina Damjanovich, Stacey Wierman, Kathryn Frakes, Katie Dobbs, Emily Chen, Lexa Westerfield (third row) Elle Kirby, Emily Ellison, Danica Rodriguez, Culleen Anderson, Alison Bergmann, Paige Patterson, Ariana Dremonas, Courtney Hoyle, Valerie Alvarez, Melina Moreno (fourth row) Anne Seaman, Breanne Lawler, Anna Pycinska, Alex Frakes, Anja Mitric, Tashi Damjanovich, Alex Hora, Jennifer Romano, Coach Janet Tobias, Coach Jelena Guber (back row) Molly Pycznicki, Kaitlin Mann, Nikki Pakan, Kara Korem, Amina Benman, Stephanie Ruiz, Coach Robin Tobias



## close call

At the Chesterton meet, Nina Damjanovich, sophomore, cheers for the 400-freestyle relay. "[Cheering] helped the swimmers get excited and riled up," Damjanovich said. Despite the support, the girls lost by two points, 92-94.



## stretch the point

With toes pointed, Amina Benman, senior, concentrates on her dive during the Valparaiso meet. "If I have good competition, then I'm confident in myself," Benman said. "It's when you over think that things don't go so well." Benman's thoughts helped her advance to State where she placed 28th.

## drown the pain

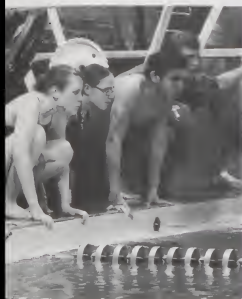
As Tashi Damjanovich, senior, sings songs in her head, she swims her lane to drown out the pain. "During a meet, I tried to put the pain aside," Damjanovich said. "When you were done with your race it was kind of hard to get out of the pool because your muscles hurt." She went on to earn the Most Valuable Player Award at the end of the season.





#### streamline

Arm up Shannon McCarthy, senior, works on her backstroke. "I thought about how my arms and legs should be and how to pull in the water efficiently," McCarthy said.



#### power swim

During the 100-breast stroke relay, Stacey Wieman, sophomore, focuses on her event. "I always thought about how much more I had to go and if I could get the girl next to me," Wieman said.



## going the distance

Girls wins first NCC title, finish 20th at State

**A**s the diver walked to the edge of the board, she turned around, wiggled her feet into position, and took a deep breath.

"The only thing [I thought of] was what I told my body to do," diving captain Amina Benman, senior, said. "I told my arms where to be and my legs where to go. I gave my body direction."

During the season, girls' swimming and diving encountered few twists and turns. The girls won all of their meets except for the meet against Crown Point, 75-111, and the meet against Chesterton, 92-94, which allowed them to get closer to their goal of getting to State.

The swim team had their first North-west Crossroads Conference (NCC) meet against Griffith, Highland, Hobart, Kankakee Valley, and Lowell.

"We wanted to go down as the first team to win it," Tashi Damjanovich, senior, said.

The girls got their wish when they won the conference title. Shortly after, the girls placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at Sectionals.

The girls appeared surprised when they actually did better at Sectionals than the predicted 40-point loss. In-

stead, the girls ended up losing by 20 points. Even though the team lost the title, they performed at their personal best, according to Head Coach Robin Tobias, Assistant Dean.

In addition, 12 swimmers and one diver qualified for State.

"[The meet] was kind of bitter sweet because our team lost overall," Benman said.

Placing 1<sup>st</sup> in diving, Benman qualified for Regionals where she placed 7<sup>th</sup>. This allowed her to advance to State where she finished 28<sup>th</sup>.

"[State] was amazing because last year I didn't even make it out of Sectionals," Benman said.

At State, the girls tied with Highland for 20<sup>th</sup> and beat their rival, Crown Point. They believed beating Crown Point a success because they had lost to Crown Point earlier in the season.

"It was just exciting to be on deck with a group of ladies that had a positive attitude and were excited about the meet," Coach Tobias, said.



"We all had a positive attitude, which helped us have an advantage to win meets."

captain Shannon McCarthy, senior

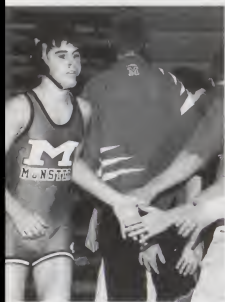


#### down for the pin

On the mat, Aaron Estrada, junior, tangles the opponent in preparation for a pin. Estrada worked out with Eric McGill, '06, to perfect his moves. "He helped me out big-time," Estrada said. "He really pushed me." The team won against Highland 42-33.

#### slap hands

Before his match, captain Jake Smith, senior, slaps the hands of his teammates. "We worked hard together and were prepared for a successful season," Smith said. The team slapped each other's hands before every match as a team tradition.



#### Wrestling 10-14

McCutcheon 27-43  
Elkhart Memorial  
21-54  
Delph 35-2  
Lowell 32-39  
Chesterton 30-41  
Kankakee Valley 33-35  
Andrean 72-7  
Avon 13-54  
Cathedral 24-47  
Anderson Highland  
43-27  
Warren Central 24-49  
East Central 38-43  
Crown Point 12-57  
Lowell 39-36  
Southmont 35-30  
Lake Station 48-32  
Highland 42-33  
Hobart 24-42  
Griffith 48-23  
Laporte 33-43  
New Prairie 41-28  
East Nobel 33-34  
Concord 33-40  
Highland 45-32

**Post-Season**  
Lake County Tmty  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
NCC Wrestling Tmty @  
Lowell 3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Hobart Varsity Invite  
9<sup>th</sup> Place

**Sectional 1st**  
Team Regional 24-37  
**Sectional Champions:**  
112-Luke Smith  
125-Justin Slosser  
130-Jacob Smith  
152-Aaron Estrada

**Regional Champion:**  
152-Aaron Estrada  
**Semi-State Runner-up**  
152-Aaron Estrada  
**State Finals**  
152-Aaron Estrada, 7<sup>th</sup>  
place



**Wrestling (front row)** Aurelio Medina, David Nootens, David Ramirez, Aaron Estrada, Jake Smith, Gilroy Velasquez, Tim Qualls, Luke Smith (**second row**) Head Coach Dan Gelarden, Jack Seamen, Clint Boelt, Tyler Musgrove, Shawn Ziemba, Tyler Kerrick, Andrew Lucas, Adam Rhoda, Justin Slosser, Paul Skogland, Brad Lewis, Matthew Rhoda, Assistant Coach Bobby Joe Maldonado, Assistant Coach Tim Maldonado (**back row**) Brandon Bragg, Jordan Cooper, Nick Estes, Michael Erwin, Andy Lucas, Adrian Gutierrez, Michael Swift, Angel Robles, Michael Adams

#### hold on

With his arms locked around his opponent, David Ramirez, senior, tries to pick him to flip him on to the mat. "It pumped me up to hear someone cheer against me or for me because then if I won I felt like I beat the crowd too," Ramirez said. The crowd made the atmosphere of the matches.



# case in point

Team beats season of inconsistencies to advance to Team Regionals

**G**rapping to 1st place at Sectionals for the first time in two years, the Wrestling team found that the 12 hours per week practices paid off, according to captain Jake Smith, senior.

The practices especially paid off as five wrestlers advanced to Semi-State and Aaron Estrada, junior, qualified for State for his third consecutive year, where he finished 7th.

"[State was] pretty exciting," Estrada said. "I was glad to be there."

The team advanced to Team Regionals for the first time in years, and attended the Cathedral Tourney for the first time ever, despite a season of inconsistencies.

"I was looking for consistency," Head Coach Dan Gelarden, Wilbur Wright Middle School science teacher, said. "We should have won [earlier matches]. We needed old varsity players to take lead, and new varsity players to step up."

After a few matches, Coach Gelarden found what he wanted when Paul Skoglund, junior, pinned Johnny Dillon, a Hobart wrestler, at the Cathedral Tourney in 30 seconds. Despite the points Skoglund earned from pinning Dillon, the team lost, 23-48.

"Hobart had been one of the top

teams in the area, so coming that close to beating them showed that we were a better team than people thought," David Ramirez, senior, said.

The week before Sectionals, the team shaved their hair into Mustang Mohawks.

"It was a tradition to shave your head like that before Sectionals," Estrada said. "Coach got a guy from East Chicago to shave the Mustang and our weight number for us."

The team made shirts with their motto: "If you ain't first, you're last." The slogan came from the movie "Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby."

"Our coaches picked it. It was fitting for Sectionals as we finished second the last two years and had a goal to win it this year," Smith said. "So we figured if we didn't finish first, we might as well be last."

Smith broke his hand during the Sectionals semi-finals.

"I won the first match [at Sectionals], but lost in semi-finals because I broke my hand during the match," Smith said.



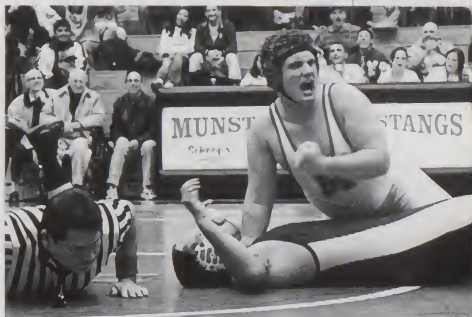
"The best thing about wrestling is you learn a lot more than just the sport, and you feel good about yourself after going through the hard practices."

Tim Qualls, senior



within a shouting distance

On the mat at Sectionals, Assistant Coach Tim Maldonado gives encouragement. "I helped the boys practice, and gave them direction when they needed it," Maldonado said.



first pin

First clinched, Mike Ervin, sophomore, shouts in victory. "I was pumped after I pinned him," Ervin said. "It was my first varsity match." Before the match even started Ervin felt confident he would win.

#### play it safe

As the catcher plays a key role of tagging out the runners coming home, he also works with the pitcher signaling the pitches. "I liked catching because I could be involved in most of the plays," Nick Nowaczyk (19), junior, said. When the ball shot out of the pitcher's hand it became the batter's job to determine if it signaled the perfect hit or not. When the Valparaiso pitcher went astray, Ryan Shimula (9), senior, saved himself by dodging the hit and landing a walk to first base.



## thrown for a curve

Determined  
for Sectionals,  
boys keep  
their heads up

**C**atches dug into the dirt as pitcher and captain Blake Platt (15), senior, glanced back at the bases making certain Lake Central's first base runner didn't attempt a steal. With eyes refocused on the batter, the battle began.

"Pitching was a mental battle between me and the batter," Blake said. "I tried to predict the next move."

The season developed as a constant fight for the Boys' Baseball Team as they struggled in the beginning to fill open positions.

"There were a lot more positions that needed to be filled this year because a lot of starters had graduated," catcher and captain Brett Keeler (3), senior, said. "People had to step up and make use of the field time."

In the beginning, the boys worked to get a feel of the game, according to second baseman Mike Adams, junior.

The boys started off the season with four consecutive wins: Clark, 8-7; Mount Vernon, 8-

2; Thornton Fractional South, 5-2; and New Haven, 8-7.

"We started well but lost a couple of Conference games that took us out of the Conference race," Head Coach

Bob Shinkan, math teacher, said. "But the guys kept on working and believing they had a chance to defeat Lake Central in Sectionals."

With a 8-4 Conference record, the boys lost their chance at becoming Conference champs. Adding in the bad weather and cancellations, the guys managed to make do with what they could.

"[The year was] resilient," Platt said. "It was tough with the weather and [we had] a tough first few games with extra innings. It was a constant fight the whole year."

Even with the struggles the team faced, they kept Sectionals in sight and stayed optimistic of their chance to beat Lake Central.

"[The seniors] made me proud. They stayed positive and led the team," Coach Shinkan said. "They kept things together."

The team made many errors on the field, which cost them the game, according to Adams. Sectionals had a lot riding on it, especially for the seniors because it meant their last game of their high school career. However, the boys came up short as they lost to Lake Central in Sectionals, 0-16.

"Sectionals didn't go as well as it should have, but we had a lot of heart and fought through until the end," Jacob Biscan, senior, said.

#### special delivery

About to release the ball, Blake Platt (15), senior, pitches a fast one to Lowell. "I always liked pitching. You were in control of the game," Blake said. The team beat Lowell 6-1 to add another win to their 8-4 Conference record.

"I tried to focus on one pitch at a time. I looked for what we needed to help the team out and get the job done."

Brandon Miller,  
senior





**Varsity Baseball** (front row) Trevor Bozich, T.J. Hecimovich, Brian Ritz, Mat Bonini, Nick Nowaczyk, Austin Wynn, Blake Platt, Mark Dye (second row) Ryan Shimada, Alex Rosales, Mike Adams, Jack Standley, Brett Keeler, Bryan Sanders, Ray Lopez, Kurt Leoney, Pat Howard (back row) Coach Jeff Rosen, Brandon Miller, Ryan Wilkinson, Jeff Spyria, Kevin Nossem, Jacob Biscan, Jerrett Tite, Head Coach Bob Shinkan



**JV Baseball** (front row) Kevin Heinrich, Mike Jergs, Matt Poules, Craig Dohman, Dimitrios Pittas, Matt Farrell (second row) Taylor Kimes, Simon Webb, Matt Brozovic, G.W. Childs, Mike Erwin (back row) Joel Brumm, Larry Allen, Ryan Wilkinson, Josh Lukoshus, Kevin Watterson, Coach Matt Backs



**Freshman Baseball** (front row) Kyle Wargo, Mike Vitkus, Jake Osterman, Brandon Zoppetti, Jordan Raynor (second row) Nate Eagan, Sam Shields, Evan Sylvester, Adam Larimer, Max Kilbary, Brooks Platt (back row) Jimmy Hinkleman, John Cristo, Luke Kuroski, John Crisman, Coach Mike Mikolajczyk



#### ready and waiting

Watching and waiting, Jacob Biscan (24), senior, keeps an eye on the game against Valparaiso. "I was always on my feet, always ready and aware of what could happen and what needed to get done," Jacob said. The boys lost to Valparaiso, 4-5.

## Varsity Baseball

15-11  
8-4 Conference

Clark 8-7  
Mt. Vernon 8-2  
TF South 5-2  
New Haven 8-7  
Lake Central 1-7  
Portage 9-6  
Crown Point 2-9  
Bishop Noll 3-8  
Hobart 7-5  
Lowell 6-1  
Griffith 17-4  
Kankakee Valley 14-9  
Valparaiso 4-5  
Andean 3-7  
Highland 12-16  
Hobart 3-1  
Lowell 3-4 (8 inn)  
Griffith 16-4  
Kankakee Valley 6-1  
Andean 1-3  
Highland 12-5  
Bellmont 24-7  
FW Concordia 10-3  
Chesterton 4-5  
Merrillville 13-5

#### Sectionals

Lake Central 0-16

JV  
12-2

Bishop Noll 9-6  
Hobart 12-2  
Lowell 13-0  
Griffith 19-5  
Kankakee Valley 20-4  
Griffith 6-1  
Highland 14-3  
Lake Central 2-3  
Merrillville 8-1  
Hobart 15-1  
Griffith 13-4  
Kankakee Valley 13-3  
Chesterton 7-8

#### Freshmen

15-2

Lake Central 7-3  
Clark JV 14-1  
Highland 0-4  
Highland 5-2  
Portage 15-1  
Griffith 19-5  
Boone Grove 10-0  
Boone Grove 22-0  
Kankakee Valley 10-0  
Merrillville 3-0  
Chesterton 14-4  
Morton 12-0  
Lowell 4-3  
Crown Point 8-7 (8 inn)  
Lincoln-Way East 12-2  
Lake Central 3-6



## in a frenzy

Cheering with the Sectional Championship trophy, Katelyn Chovanec (11) and Laura Henning (15), seniors, storm the basketball court with teammates and Kya Vesa. "We were really excited because we hadn't won [Sectionals] in so long," Chovanec said. "We won definitely because of our team chemistry. We had no problems on the team, no cliques. We were all for each other, and we were all really close."

## basic advice

While standing on third base during an early season game, Jessica Seligman, sophomore, receives advice from Coach Beth Vesa, math teacher during the cold season. "Coach Vesa always helped us out," Seligman said. "She gave us the advice we needed and made us keep our eyes open."



## Varsity Softball

27-7

10-2 conference

Homewood

Flossmoor 4-1

Lake Central 2-15

Andean 5-2

Crown Point 4-3

Kankakee Valley 4-0

Lowell 3-4

Griffith 1-0

Hobart 6-2

Highland 1-2

SB Riley 10-0

West Lafayette 8-1

Cathedral 5-0

Carmel 4-7

Andean 4-2

Illiana Christian 1-2

Kankakee Valley 4-1

Lowell 8-1

Griffith 6-2

Benton Central 9-2

McCutcheon 3-0

Frontier 7-0

Twin Lakes 10-0

Hobart 8-3

Highland 5-0

Morton 2-0

Lafayette Jefferson 3-1

Valparaiso 10-0

Chesterton 2-3

Sectionals

Portage 4-1

Morton 5-1

Lake Central 4-1

## Regionals

LaPorte 5-6

## Honors

Conference Champs

Sectional Champs

## JV Softball

23-0

Homewood

Flossmoor 6-0

Lake Central 5-4

Hanover Central 15-2

Crown Point 5-1

Kankakee Valley 13-0

Lowell 10-1

Hobart 4-3

Highland 10-0

Andean 10-0

Wheeler 9-2

Illiana Christian 12-0

Kankakee Valley 6-2

Lake Central 6-4

Chesterton 11-3

Lowell 8-1

Griffith 4-2

Hobart 8-0

Highland 9-0

Lafayette Jefferson 12-0

Harrison 11-1

Valparaiso 3-0

Chesterton 21-1

Portage 4-3



Varsity Softball (front row) Eleanor Kennedy, Laura Henning, Ashley Moore, Kelly Mashura, Amanda Hoffman, Katelyn Chevonac (second row) Grace Ispas, Erin Moss, Jamie Lissy, Kara Curosh, Emily Becher, Phuebe Conner, Jessica Seligman (back row) Coach Ron Moore, Coach Michael Coil, Coach Beth Vesa, Coach Tom DiGulio



Junior Varsity Softball (front row) Stephanie Grabarczyk, Robyn Hennig, Kori Kirby, Kelsey DalPolo (second row) Coach Michael Coil, Kelli Spurlock, Sarah Cluserath, Erica Case, Marionna Cane, Alyssa Schweitzer, Coach Ron Moore (back row) Kaelyn Tott, Shannon Shreibak, Emily McCullough, Elaine Klema



# high and mighty

Girls overcome early season doubts to become Sectional Champs

**W**ith the sun beating down, Emily Becher, sophomore, walks up to the plate. Her eyes meet the pitcher as she takes her stance next to the plate. She inhales, waiting for the chance to swing.

The Varsity Girls' Softball Team went through training to become the first Sectional Champions in 11 years beating Lake Central.

"Practices were more demanding to me than last year when I was in junior varsity," Becher said. "Coach [Beth] Vesa had so much energy and expected so much from us."

Practices included training on hitting, defensive outfielding and infielding skills.

"We usually practiced hitting in the cages," Jessica Seligman, sophomore, said. "We practiced on catching grounders and pop ups in order to train our memory muscles. Once you practiced those exercises long enough, your

muscles started to memorize how to move for that specific exercise."

Even with practicing their skills, the girls found ways to have fun on and off the field.

"We went to someone from the team's house and had team sleep overs," Laura Hennig, senior, said. "On the field, we would just make jokes during practices. We were serious, but we would make up these jokes to lighten everyone's mood and make it more fun for everyone."

Chemistry from the team became a big factor that helped the team's morale.

"Team chemistry was our biggest strong point," Coach Beth Vesa, math teacher, said. "The girls all seemed close and got along very well with each other."

Even with this chemistry, the team's dreams came up short at Regionals in a 12-inning 5-6 loss to LaPorte.

"You couldn't tell between the older girls and younger girls. It was the team or nobody. We were all there for each other."

Laura Hennig, senior



**coming down fast**  
With her tongue out, Eleanor Kennedy (16), senior, pitches with concentration. Kennedy helped inspire the team and bring them closer together, according to Coach Beth Vesa, math teacher.



**close reach**

Diving onto the ground, Erin Moss, junior, tries to catch a grounder before it goes into the outfield. Defensive infield skills practice helped the girls with game situations.

**Freshman Softball (front row)** Stephanie Grabarczyk, Erin McCarthy, Kelsey Dall'Polo (*second row*) Coach Ron Moore, Cassie Brazzle, Emily McCullough, Rachel Schmagranoffi, Julie Pavogel, Elaine Klema (*back row*) Cecile James, Shannon Shreibak, Kate Novak



# scrambling to stay on top

Boys overcome inexperience, loss of home course to reach their goals

**E**yes focused on the fairway ahead, Daniel Paulson, sophomore, aligns his driver accordingly. He feels the eyes of his father watching him from the crowd and starts to feel the pressure.

"Having the crowd watched you wasn't as bad as having people you knew watching you," Paulson said. "When there was a bigger match, I could start to feel the pressure."

Not only did the crowds provide pressure for the Boys' Golf Team, but also the weather provided complications for the season.

"One of the difficulties was not having a home course," Head Coach Brian Clark, Dean, said. "The weather was lousy so Wicker was closed. We used Sherwood Golf Course and Lost Marsh once [instead]."

When the weather kept the team from playing, Coach Clark insisted the team still held some sort of practice.

"Coach [Clark] took us inside and we would go over the rules [of golf] or we would have an indoor driving range," Andrew Kaminski, senior, said.

The drawback of not having a home

course did not bring the golfers' game down. Despite the lack of experienced golfers due to losing seniors to graduation the year before, the boys took 3rd at Sectionals. The team relied on seniors Kaminski and Pero Ogrozovich to step up with their three years experience on the team, whereas Paulson experienced his first year on varsity.

"It was really exciting for me," Paulson said. "It was a good group of guys on varsity this year."

Ogrozovich and Kaminski proved to be key golfers because of their experience.

"It helped having experienced golfers on the team to help the new team members understand what to do," Dan Johnson, sophomore, said. "They helped motivate the guys, and they taught us ways to improve our game."

The team won Conference and placed 3rd at Sectionals, their biggest accomplishment, according to Kaminski.

"The most important thing for us was to play to our capabilities [during Sectionals]," Paulson said. "We had the chance to make it out of Regionals for the first time [in school history]."

While the team did not place at Regionals, they felt accomplished to qualify for the chance to play, according to Coach Clark.

## line them up

While aligning the ball, Daniel Paulson, sophomore, tries to keep his focus. "Keeping your focus on the match was the most important thing," Paulson said.

"The fact that everyone played extremely well this season was the best thing to me."

Pero Ogrozovich, senior



## drive away

After finishing a drive, Tommy Bassetto, senior, watches where the ball lands. The team practiced at Sherwood Golf Course due to losing their home course at Wicker Park.





#### hard hit

In full swing, Andrew Kaminski, senior, watches after he hit a drive. "I concentrated on my game," Kaminski said. "That's important in golf, to be patient and concentrate." Kaminski played on the team for three years.

#### drive away

Ready to swing, Pero Ogrozovich, senior, lines up the ball. Ogrozovich played Number One on the team because of his experience and passion for the game. At the end of the season, he earned Most Valuable Player honors.



#### eye on the ball

After carefully lining up his putt, Brad Levan, senior, gently taps the ball. "I just wanted to make it in," Brad said.



Boys' Golf (front row) Tony Rubino, Ryan Watrobka, Pero Ogrozovich, Danny Fallon, Jeff Lawler, Travis Dade (back row) Max Peck, Dan Paulson, Andrew Kaminski, Brad Levan, Tommy Bassetto, Daniel Johnson, Coach Brian Clark

#### sit steady

Intently trying to read the green, Ryan Watrobka, junior, crouches as he lines up his putt. "I enjoyed golf because it was very relaxing," Ryan said.

#### Boys' Golf

8-2

#### 5-1 conference

Valparaiso 184-166

Lake Central/

Highland LC 154,

M 161, H 175

Griffith 173-193

Twin Lakes Invite

8th of 16/365

Highland 183-193

Portage 156-153

Andrean 163-159

Noll/Andrean/

Gavit 181-189

Valparaiso Invite

6th of 9/347

Kankakee Valley

171-174

Rensselaer Invite

3rd of 16/346

Hobart 148-174

Lowell 174-206

Michigan City/Noll/

Marquette

165-145-173-173

Lake Central Invite

8th of 12/368

Conference Invite 2nd

Post Season

Sectionals

Lake Central

3rd/345

Regionals

Laporte 10th/349

Honors

MVP: Ogrozovich

Pride, Hustle, Desire-

Kaminski and

Watrobka



# Girls' Tennis

20-2

## 6-0 Conference

Crown Point 5-0

Lowell 5-0

Kankakee

Valley 5-0

Highland 5-0

Carmel Invite 1st

Hobart 5-0

West Lafayette 5-0

Andreen 5-0

Park Tudor 2-3

South Bend St. Joe

5-0

Penn 5-0

Valparaiso 5-0

Plymouth 5-0

## Sectionals

Gavit 5-0

Lake Central 5-0

Regionals

Hammond 5-0

Highland 5-0

Semi-State

Northridge 5-0

Michigan City 4-1

State

Zionsville 3-2

Park Tudor 1-4

## Post Season/Honors

Conference Champs

Sectional Champs

Regional Champs

Semi-State Champs



Girls' Tennis (front row) Vanessa Sepiol, Mary Hill, Kamryn Klawitter, Rachael Heiniger, Christina Lee, Samantha Tantillo, Kristina Kovacich, Kristie Miller (second row) Jillian Koselke, Chandani Bhatt, Cassie Diederich, Jenny Roeth, Kavita Dedania, Madison Gallegos, Allie Hurwicz, Kallryn Doyle, Krista Zagat, Andieja Radmilovic, Isabella Ramirez, Deanna Sylvester, Kristi Roser, Michelle Chung, Ariel Fischer (third row) Dezerre Penning, Ele Chakraborty, Megha Kumar, Judith Gonsalves, Kelsey Warda, Natalia Fernandez, de Cordova, Niyati Shah, Jessica Gonsalves, Aesha Maniar (back row) Coach Julie Modesto, Max Gersham, Tamara Marzette, Rachel Hannigan, Stacy Krahn, Jill Leslie, Jessica Jamnich, Brianna Solola, Sonia Grabowski, Shirin Kamalipour, Alexis Ginn, Tara Mojtahed, Coach Bob Modesto



# first come first serve

Girls finish 2nd at State, despite early season predictions

**W**ith anticipation the crowd awaited the outcome of the Park Tudor match at State in Indianapolis.

"A lot of people didn't expect us to make it to State," No. 1 Doubles player and captain Sam Tantillo, senior said.

The girls prepared for State with long practice hours and conditioning.

"During long matches, it came down to who was in better condition," Tantillo said.

The girls did different types of sprints, jumped rope and tried to put themselves in pressure situations, according to No. 2 Doubles player Kamryn Klawitter, freshman.

Before the Carmel Invite, Head Coach Bob Modesto, English teacher, decided to change the line up in order to make the team stronger.

Coach Modesto moved Kristina Kovacich, sophomore, from No. 2 Doubles to No. 3 Singles and Rachel Heiniger, sophomore, and Klawitter became the new

Fort Wayne Homestead with six 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes.

"Last year we had more nationally ranked players and yet this year we were able to compete as well as we did last year," Coach Modesto said.

At State, it came down to the last point in the opening match against Zionsville with Kovacich.

"In the back of our minds we knew we were playing for a state championship," Klawitter said. "Watching [Kristina] get that final point against Zionsville was a special moment. We all attacked her and we were all so excited knowing that we made it to the finals."

Kovacich pulled out a win and ended the match, 3-2, which allowed the girls to play in the finals against the top-ranked team in the State, Park Tudor. Despite their efforts and training, the girls lost to Park Tudor, 1-4.

"I thought this was the year," Tantillo said. We all felt it in our gut, but when you look at the big picture, just being down [at State] was an honor."

However, No. 1 Singles player Mary Hill, junior, won her match against the No. 1 Park Tudor player, which allowed her to advance to Individual State.

"At first I was nervous because I had never gone [to Individual State] before," Hill said.

Hill lost her first match at Individual State and placed 3<sup>rd</sup>, ending with a 78-1 her high school career record.

## Serves up

No. 1 Singles player Mary Hill, junior, serves to her Andreen opponent. "Sometimes [my opponent] got used to where my serve was," Hill said. "So depending on where they were standing, I went the opposite way." The team swept Andreen, 5-0.

"A local paper from Michigan City claimed that we were, 'a bump in the road.' We proved everyone wrong."



captain  
Sam Tantillo,  
senior

No. 2 Doubles team.

"In the beginning, we didn't really believe in ourselves," No. 2 Singles player Christina Lee, sophomore, said. "When we tied for 1<sup>st</sup> [with Carmel] at the Carmel Invite we realized we were a strong team and we wanted to get to State."

The girls placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at State to tie





#### shake on it

Lined up for introductions, No. 2 Doubles team Kristina Kovacich, sophomore, and Karmryn Klawitter, freshman, shake hands with their opponent before a match. "[Coach Bob Modesto] had confidence that a line up change would help," Kovacich said. The coach called for change in order to make the team stronger. Kovacich moved from No. 2 Doubles to No. 3 Singles, and Klawitter and Rachael Heiniger, sophomore, became the new No. 2 Doubles team.

#### between you and me

In between points, No. 1 Doubles team Sam Tantillo, senior, and Vanessa Sepiol, sophomore, talk to Head Coach Bob Modesto, English teacher. "[Coach Modesto] usually talked about strategy," Sepiol said. "He told us what we needed to work on or just to keep it up." Either Coach Bob Modesto or Assistant Coach Julie Modesto talked to the players between points for advice or encouragement.



#### eye on the ball

With concentration, No. 3 Singles player Kristina Kovacich, sophomore, prepares herself to hit a backhand. "I just tried to focus on the game, nothing else," Kovacich said. **Focused on her actions**, No. 2 Singles player Christina Lee, sophomore, warms up her serve. "I wanted to win and get off the court," Lee said. "I thought, 'What is the quickest way I can win and be done.'" Lee and the other girls would compete to see who could finish their matches first, according to Lee. **Running for a hit**, No. 1 Doubles player Vanessa Sepiol, sophomore, concentrates on the motion of the ball. "[On the court] I tried to keep a positive attitude," Sepiol said. Sepiol felt that she played a lot of teams that did not pose a real threat to her or her partner.

# hitting their stride

Boys' Track wins first Sectional title in school history

**O**n the field as the speakers announced the team Sectional winners, the Boys' Track Team ran wild with excitement when they weren't called for second place. This meant that for the first time in history they won first in Sectionals.

"We couldn't believe we came in first," Lazarick Whitlock, senior, said. "Everyone flipped when they called some other school for second place."

The season started off with cancellations and rearrangements due to the spring weather, but the team pulled to-

gether and reached their goal of winning Sectionals.

"The season started off rough with the weather, but we had our goal of making it at Conference and Sectionals," hurdler Joe Abu-Aita, senior, said. "We had to beat everyone in depth

and we knew everyone had to pull their own weight in order to do it."

The boys proved they could pull it off with an 8-2 record, winning Conference. They also won their first Sectional title ever, came in 11th at Regionals and qual-

#### keep the lead

At the Conference meet with Andrian, Blake Williams, senior, works to catch the lead. "My job was to get us in the lead, which would help the team to do better," Williams said. The boys won the meet, 105-26.

ified for State. The 4 x 800 team of seniors Sam Kasmak, Blake Williams, Jovan Andjelich and junior Fred Olaosebikan placed 17th at State, while Joe Abu-Aita finished 22nd in the 110 hurdles.

The season turned out unforgettable, according to Andjelich. The 4 x 800 team consisted of four best friends who depended on one another to finish the race.

"[The boys were] very talented and they loved their sport," Coach Aaron Brown, Wilbur Wright Middle School teacher, said. "We expected to do well. We did and we won [Conference and Sectionals]."

For the seniors, a Sectional win and qualifying for State served as a great way to end their career, according to Blake Williams, senior.

"It turned out to be the best season of my career," Abu-Aita said. "Although, it was unpredictable, some teams would bring these guys you've never heard of before. You had to adapt to the different competition and perform at your best."

Lots of talent and improvement summed up the season, according to high-jumper Matt Shacklett, junior. Stripping Lake Central of their 14-year winning streak at Sectionals provided a major triumph for the team.

#### press on

To gain height on his jump, Austin Bubash, junior, captures some speed. "I took high jump over sprint," Bubash said. "It was hard to keep consistency from meet to meet, but it was fun." The team defeated Gary Roosevelt, 90.5-32.5.



"The season was memorable we had a good time and we were one of the best and well rounded teams in the area,"  
discus **Tim Qualls**, senior







#### up and over

Jumping the hurdles during the Gary Roosevelt meet, Joe Abu-Aita, senior, takes up his form to lead the group. "I loved that [hurdling] was a specialty," Abu-Aita said. "It took a lot to be a hurdler. The form was the hardest part because it was so specific."

#### one step at a time

On his turn during the 4 x 800 relay at the Gary Roosevelt meet, Jovan Andjelich, senior, takes off beside Zach Vega, sophomore. "The training we did practicing every day and pushing each other as a team paid off," Andjelich said. The boys' 4 x 800 relay placed 17th at State.



Boys' Track (front row) Sam Kasmark, Fred Olasebikan, Jovan Andjelich, Joe Abu-Aita, Gilroy Velasquez, Lazarick Whitlock, Oscar Giazero, Carnett Broadnax (second row) Coach Aaron Brown, Travis Kmetz, Blake Williams, Matt Gehrig, Alek Shmagranoff, Matt Shaddlett, Sam Shaner, Feras Ziadat, Coach Kyle Kwansey (third row) Eric Neiner, Tim Yee, Seon Zee-ba, Ian Svoboda, Patrick Fagan, Evan McShane, Mitch Hanak, Ian Boswell, Coach Brian Vance (fourth row) Sam Schlesinger, Fabian Garcia, Kurt Alberson, Zach Vega, Grant Williams, Steve Gehrig, Justin Hott, Tyler Schwartz (back row) Christian Young, Kyle O'Brien, Ben Taylor, Max Tratar, Austin Bubash, Dudley L'aquette, Tim Kearney, Josh Willis

#### hold tight

On his way up to the bar at the meet against Gary Roosevelt, Gilroy Velasquez, senior, holds on with all his strength. "You had to be fast and strong with muscle memory to go high," Velasquez said.

#### Boys' Track 6-2 5-1 Conference

Lake Central 55-77  
Griffith 90-40  
Lowell 55-72  
Kankakee Valley  
84.5-47.5  
Andean 105-26  
Gary Roosevelt  
90.5-92.5  
Highland 101-31  
Mustang Invite  
1st/186  
Calumet Invite  
1st/363.5  
Hobart 76-56  
NCC Conference  
Meet @ Highland  
1st place/148

#### Sectionals

1st/148.5

#### Regionals

11th/20

#### State

4 x 800 17th place  
Hurdles 22nd place

#### Honors

Conference Champs  
Sectional Champs  
State qualifiers



# off to a flying start

Girls' Track dashes to 4th at State, passing minor mishaps

**S**ilence covered the track at Sectionals as the sound of muffled voices and track shoes hitting the ground stopped when Whitney Freeman, sophomore, fell over the hurdle.

"I was embarrassed and disappointed but I shook it off," Freeman said. "I knew that Sectionals was important to the team so I did the best of my ability."

The Girls' Track Team ended up placing 2nd at Sectionals, 3rd at Regionals, and 4th at State, their proudest moment, according to Head Coach Michelle Duffy,

English teacher.

The team expected to win Conference and qualify for State, but as the season progressed Coach Duffy saw winning Sectionals and Regionals as a more likely goal.

"We worked really hard so it was no surprise that we went so far," Rubin said. "We practiced daily, worked together to improve and pushed ourselves to the fullest during meets."

"The overall talent I saw in this team was the best talent I'd coached on a track team. They just seemed to be very supportive of one another."

Head Coach  
Michelle Duffy



**take the jump**

Ready to pole vault, co-captain Kim Long, senior, squints at her target. "It was exciting," Long said. "You flew throw the air for a moment." The girls came in first at the Highland Invite.



**full speed**

Running for the win at Regionals, co-captain Ruth Christopher, senior, dashes to the finish line. "I was confident in our team," Ruth said. "We placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. We were glad to at least make it though."

**thrown away**

Arm out as she begins her spin, co-captain Karen Larsen, senior, prepares to throw the discus at the Highland Invite. All the hours of practice paid off when she earned a trip to State in the shot put.





#### mad dash

At the starting line, Sarah Rubino, senior, begins her dash to the finish line. "I loved to run," Rubino said. Rubino ran all the way to State, where she and her teammates finished 3rd in the 1600 Relay in 3:52.26.

#### pass the baton

On her way to the next runner, Devin Gosberry, senior, prepares to pass the baton in the relay. Devin finished 2nd in the 400-meter dash at State in 55.39.



#### hurdle on over

In her second year jumping hurdles, Whitney Freeman, sophomore, clears over the hurdle at the Highland Invite. Confident about the team's success, Whitney hurdled her way to victory as the girls won 1st place at the invite.



**Girls' Track** (front row) Jenna Pagane, Kaitlyn Hobbs, Bridgit Marriott, Brianne Rubesha, Sarah Rubino, Kristin Brajak, Kristen Pagane, Lyndsey Kunz, Rizzie Fisher, Whitney Freeman (second row) Coach Rick Sluder, Brittany Bermingham, Erin Hoyt, Kayla Bachert, Colleen Boyle, Jessica Goodrich, Jennifer Novosel, Kathryn Hellen, Laura Kinser, Jessica Biesiot, Coach Michelle Duffy (third row) Ruth Christopher, Reahna Christopher, Jessica Kitchell, Kyela Specht, Alexandra Doctor, Christina Pasyk, Laine Williams, Ashley Burton, Lindsey Kitchell, Ruby Ginn (fourth row) Joanna Marinakos, Katherine Androsos, Megan Yohment, Kristina Keith, Lovelyn Pastrana, Kim Long, Stacy Avigis, Michelle Kwielek, Devin Gosberry, Coach Tom Barnes (back row) Erin Wysocki, Jamie Swing, Annie Seaman, Jessica Hilbrich, Bernadette Bowen, Julie Zivich, Jordan Newman, Karen Larsen

#### Girls' Track

6-1

6-0 Conference

Lowell 103-20

Griffith 105-18

Kankakee Valley 99-33

Andean 115-15

Penn Invite 2nd place/101

Highland 116-15

Highland Invite 1st/200

Mustang Invite 1st

Calumet Invite 1st/353.5

Hobart 109-23

NCC Conference Meet

1st Place/205

#### State finishes

400-meter dash

Devin Gosberry 2nd

(55.39)

Ruth Christopher 4th

(56.59)

1,600-meter relay

3rd Gosberry,

Christopher, Sarah

Rubino and Kristen

Pagane (3:52.26)

300 Hurdles

Whitney Freeman 2nd

(44.41)

3,200 relay

6th (9:33.16)

#### Honors

Conference Champs

Sectional Champs

2nd Place/164

Regional Champs

3rd Place/73

State

4th/33 points

**With a steady hand,** Erin Montgomery, sophomore, paints "Deutschklub" (German Club) on her car for the Homecoming parade. "Frau Meier needed to use my car for German Club because I had a Volkswagen, which is a German car," Erin said.

**Arm extended,** Jenna Brakulis, senior, plays the Paris Ring Toss game for the foreign language clubs' party. "The games were fun because they encouraged you to work with people," Jenna said. As an officer of American Sign Language Club, Jenna showed up to support the club.



**Lost in concentration,** Brian Ong, freshman, carefully pours dye into a bottle to prepare for the German Club t-shirt tie-dying. "This was my first time [tie-dying] and I thought it would be fun," Brian said. Since Brian never tie-dyed before, he decided to tie-dye three shirts.



**As music plays in the Commons,** Sarah Posey and Sameera Raziuddin, juniors, Salsa dance in Spanish Club. "I thought it would be fun because I loved to dance," Sameera said. Miss

Meghan Bialas, Spanish teacher and club sponsor, organized the dancing and found a professional Salsa dancer to teach the group.



# Relaxing enjoyment Draws interest

Seeking a break from the normal classroom stress, students found freedom in club fun. Field trips to the Kris Kringle German Christmas market, signing for the hearing impaired, making club t-shirts, or hanging out after school for a club party, provided students with a way to enjoy their time away from homework while they tried to make the best of it.

“I liked caroling for the deaf in the winter because it was fun. It was nice to see their reactions.”

Emily Sojka,  
ASL president

## Picking up her pencil in Art Club,

Lan Anh Nguyen, junior, contemplates what her next drawing will look like.

“When I drew or painted, hopefully the observer or the audience would feel the same way I felt,” she said.

Lan Anh started drawing at the age of five, but took up painting her sophomore year. She won many awards including the National Scholar Award for art.

Lan Anh viewed drawing and painting as a form of self-expression, and as an international unifier, something beyond words.

“Everybody connected through seeing and images. No matter what race or color we could relate, and the way our inner selves were was similar,” she said.

## Kicking off the year, French Club

hosted their annual cheese party. With different cheeses available, students tried a variety.

“The cheese party was such a success that people from other clubs came in to steal the food,” Grant Huebner, senior, said, “but we didn’t mind.”

Grant enjoyed the cheese party and the field trip to the Museum of Science and Industry to see “Christmas Around the World,” but

Grant’s favorite memory became the end of the year crepe party.

“Seeing Mrs. [Tina] Hudson, retiring foreign language teacher at Wilbur Wright Middle School, again was nice because I hadn’t seen her since eighth grade,” he said.

French Club had successful parties, according to Grant, but the fun did not end at the parties.

“The fact that we were all so exuberant [made French Club fun],” he said. “It was always enjoyable.”

## With the Commons crowded

with Spanish Club members and music in the background, students learned to Salsa dance from a professional Salsa dancer.

“This year we kept an attendance so people had an incentive to come to events,” Spanish Club president Tim Yee, senior, said.

Spanish Club started off with about 309 students, but only a handful stayed active.

“The number [of students] went down,” he said, “but then we knew who was dedicated. [I joined Spanish Club] because Spanish was a really big part of my life. I went to the IU Honors program in Valencia [Spain] and I wanted to share my experiences and meet new people who enjoyed Spanish.”

**Forks in hands,** German Club members juniors Christina Terry, Erin Hott and Stephanie Sepiol make chocolate fondue as part of their study on Switzerland. **Decked out in beads,** Kim Long, senior, and Madame Alyce Mart-Webb, French teacher, look over some plans for the French Club Mardi Gras party. “The Mardi Gras party was a lot of fun because we made these cakes and put a little plastic baby in the cakes,” Kim said. “If you got the baby, it was good luck.” **Face scrunched,** Matt Goodman, junior, takes a bite of the “Dead Bread” for the Spanish Club “Day of the Dead” party.





**Blaring his trumpet** as loud as he could, Justin Mulesa, junior, plays during the Homecoming half-time show. Band members started working on the half-time show formations and music for during their summer band camp in August.

**During rehearsal for *Godspell*,** Melissa Lee, sophomore, prepares make up for Chris Yothment, freshman. "I loved being apart of back-stage and helping out with the productions," Melissa said. "The best part was seeing the entertainment come alive for the opening night."




**Chatting before rehearsal** for *Curse of the Cobra's Kiss*, seniors Mallory McShane and Alyssa Spungen sit on stage together. "Directors had to know how to make the performance come to life," Mallory said. "It was our jobs to make sure everything went smoothly for the show."

**Eyes on the director,** Sarah Mich, senior, gracefully signs the *Star Spangle Banner* with the American Sign Language Club during the Homecoming game. Students served the deaf community by signing at the game and at local coffee houses.



# Performers find fulfillment Together



Deciding on what to do in high school created problems for some. Whether to be active in many clubs or just one that really peaked an interest depended on the person. Some people looked towards more entertaining types of clubs to not only make fun for themselves after school, but also create entertaining joy to those in the audience. Providing that entertainment proved to some students to be the most rewarding experience of their high school days.

“  
[The best thing about entertaining] was the rush you got from the applause.”  
”

Sean Tomazin,  
Band member

**Ashornsblare** on stage to get into tune, Sean Tomazin, junior, prepares himself for the performance ahead. He calms his breathing as he double checks to make sure every percussion instrument is in tune and in place.

“Before any performance, I got really nervous,” Sean said. “Even after playing since fifth grade, I was still not used to performing on stage.”

Practicing pieces helped the entertainment go smoothly. In Band, students practiced in school and out of school to insure this happened.

“Even though everyone was providing entertainment on stage, it wasn’t a solo effort,” Sean said. “Every single person was apart of a group all wanting to play music. Everyone had to play well individually to make sure the sound came out right. Band was a team effort, and that togetherness brought that entertainment alive.”

After the performance ended, accolades spread throughout the auditorium for the music Sean and his peers played. “[The best thing about entertaining] was the rush you got from the applause. [The applause] gave me

this sense of accomplishment, like everything I worked so hard on was worth it in the end.”

**Aligning his music** according to the first to last played piece, Andy Johnson, senior, sits down on his chair with the rest of the violin section.

“Performance that entertains was interesting in the way you got to see the audience and everyone around you open up to a musical level,” Andy said. “Everyone who was out in the crowd was there to listen to me and everyone else play. It was sort of incredible to comprehend that, but it amazed me that so many people supported the music.”

Even though both Band and Orchestra played music, the music proved to be different from each club. However, different music for both musical clubs did not include a difference in practice.

“It varied for each person on how long they wanted to play,” Andy said. “Personally, it varied from a range of several hours to maybe only one. I would practice more if there was a piece that really motivated me.”

Motivation with a piece helped Andy entertain better in his performance because of his passion for the song.

“In Orchestra, I worked hard when I practiced a piece to make sure it was perfect,” Andy said. “When I got a reaction from the audience, like a applause, I felt accomplished in all the effort I put into it. Hearing applause was one of the greatest awards I ever received.”

*continued on page 161*



**In perfect unison**, flute players stand in line with the rest of the Band during the half-time show. “Marching band was fun, but it was a lot of hard work,” Catherine Vlahos, freshman,

said. “It was hard to get the routine and music down at the same time, but it was fun to be there with all of your friends in Band.”



**Watching** Band Director Mr. Bill Woods’ lead, James Willis, junior, plays his bass. “I wanted to join Pep Band because it let me play my bass more for school and I loved to play,” James said. “I joined anything that let me do what I loved to do which was playing the bass.”

**Patiently waiting for her cue.** Janelle Boudreau, junior, prepares herself mentally for the Flag Corps performance with the Marching Band. "We practiced our routine for hours until we got it down right," Janelle said.

**With flag flying high.** Tim Yee, senior, runs in front of the Marching Band during the Homecoming parade to psych up the crowd. After the flag, the Marching Band performed practiced pieces in order to entertain the crowd at the Homecoming parade.

**From inside the booth,** Technical Director Kurt Popovich, senior, adjusts the lighting on the stage before the fall musical *Codspell*. "We made sure the technicalities of the show went smoothly," Kurt said.



**With head tilted.** Dan Carr, senior, plays his horn with Pep Band during Basketball season. "Music was a big part of high school for me," Dan said. "I loved being apart of [Band] and entertaining others by playing."

**Plucking to the music.** Robby Howard and Khashayar Farhadi, sophomores, practice for an upcoming Orchestra concert. "[Entertaining others] gave me a sense of accomplishment," Khashayar said.



# Performers find fulfillment Together

continued from page 159



**Scribbling down notes** quickly on a script in front of her, Danielle Cacich, senior, listened intently to Mr. Larry Brechner, Auditorium Director, as he dictated what needed to be done for the show.

"I enjoyed being apart of booth because it gave me a sense of pride knowing that there are people relying on me to do my job," Danielle said. "In booth, I helped adjust sound levels of the microphones. Without sound, there couldn't be any production."

Sound and lighting staffs worked together to enhance the production happening on-stage.

"Auditorium Staff ran the auditorium and made sure that everything went smoothly," Danielle said. "Without the staff running the lights, enhancing the sound and doing stage moves in the dark, the show wouldn't be the same. That's how we contributed to the entertainment that went on in there."

**With a colorful costume** draped around her, Morgan Midkiff, junior, picked up her drum on stage. Wrapping the strap around her neck, she patted the drum gently to create a soft rhythm. As others in African Drum and Dance picked up their instruments, the rhythm started to pick up and became louder.

"Before a performance most of us would warm up our hands and then drum a little to get the blood flowing," Morgan said. "It helped get us pumped up for the performance ahead."

Getting psyched up for a concert helped relieve Morgan's stress and tension.

"I entertained others by sharing the music

**With jazz hands raised**, the cast of *Gyps and Dolls* line up on stage to finish practicing "Don't Rock the Boat." "Being able to entertain the crowd was important," Mark Knight, senior said.

**Sweetly smiling** with arms wrapped around each other, Melissa Lee and Robyn Hennig, sophomores, entertain each other before the Homecoming half-time show.

I played on stage from West Africa," Morgan said. "I found [the music] interesting, and I wanted others to enjoy it too."

The African Drum and Dance Ensemble performed with the professional African Drum and Dance group, Like Water, in a concert.

"Performing with Like Water was unbelievable," Morgan said. "Ryan, one of the drummers for Like Water, warmed up with us before the concert. So we were all revved up even before the audience arrived. There was so much energy on stage that night, it was an awesome feeling of accomplishment. It was also amazing to see a professional African Drumming group live."

**As he cleared his throat** nervously, David Blumberg, sophomore, prepared himself for the choir concert for that evening. He hummed to himself to make sure he sounded in tune with his music and then set off for the stage.

"I felt really anxious before I went on stage. When I waited to perform, I really started to feel ready to sing," David said. "The wait built up my anticipation to go out and do what I love most, sing."

Creating entertainment required practice and effort, which resulted in a clear sound that stirred the audience.

"The best thing about entertaining was that I was having a great time doing what I love to do and others got to share in my joy," David said. "The greatest thing was when people came up to me and start raving about how well the choir sang. These are the greatest compliments, and they are also the best type of rewards."

**While wearing her senior homecoming shirt**, Jackie Kovach, senior, walks in line with the Dance Team. The girls provided plenty of entertainment during the Pep Rally and Homecoming parade with dance routines and cheers.





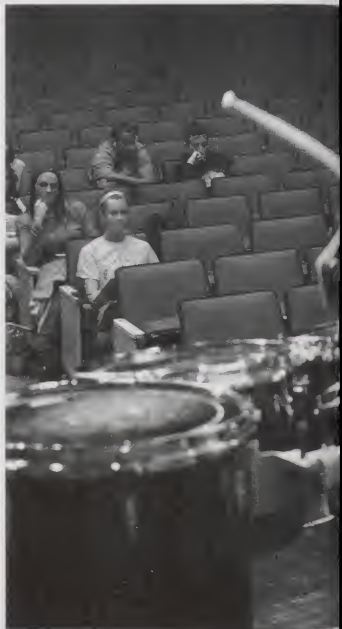


**Stretched across** the lane at Plaza Lanes in Highland, Eric Anderson, senior, participates in the DECA Bowl-a-thon. "We had an amazing time and managed to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association," Eric said.

**Jotting down quick** notes and jokes, Jennifer Novosel, senior, and Mike Baggett, freshman, fill out National Honor Society-sponsored candygrams for their friends. "I bought candygrams to make fun of my friends," Mike said. "I put jokes on them to be sent to my friends Matt Fehring and Matt Collison."



**Eyes glued to the stage** Student Government members Jessica Bistek, Leah Brousalis, juniors, Jessica Korda, Megan McKechnie, seniors, and Fred Olaosebikan and Grant Williams, juniors, analyze the different Battle of the Bands performances at tryouts. "It was fun listening to the different groups and being the first to hear them and see who we liked best," Jessica said.



# Giving back makes a Difference

The task came small, but the effect made an impact. Students found themselves living up to society's dream of making a difference. Whether they placed paper in the recycling bins or carried them out on recycling day, they contributed to a cause.

When students started school, the rumblings of getting involved haunted the air. Some said they didn't need to be involved to have success, others made involvement the key to their success.

“When I volunteered I felt like I was actually making a difference. It made me feel better about myself knowing that I was taking my own time to help others.”

Aava Khatiwada,  
Project X  
Secretary

## Breaking her goal of 100 hours

of community service Angelina Mandic, sophomore, found ways to help out.

“Little things helped out others, which was cool because what wasn't a hard task for me helped others so much,” Angelina said. “If I could keep doing little things like putting books away at the library it would make me feel better because I would be lending people a helping hand.”

Putting in her own time, Angelina learned more than just where the books go in the library.

“I realized it doesn't take much to help others,” she said. “It only took a few hours a week and never took much out of my own schedule, so it always worked out. I felt more involved in the community because I found out more about little things going on, like the art and craft fair here at school.”

## Being elected president

of Student Government meant taking initiative, and Matt Thompson, senior, managed to do just that.

“Each year, we did a few things for Munster High School and the town as well,” Matt said. “First off, we started the year by hosting

With some final touches, Sarah Wachala, junior, finishes a Valentine's Day card for the senior citizens at Munster Med Inn. “It was a good way to help the elderly who may not have gotten anything for Valentine's Day.”

the Homecoming dance. We made all the decorations and stuff for the dance, which was a lot more work than people thought. Also, for the town, we hosted Battle of the Bands, which all the proceeds went to the Riley's Childrens Hospital in Munster's name. We did a blood drive, where kids could give blood to local blood banks which helped the community.”

Working with the administration and his fellow students did not prove as much of a challenge for Matt.

“I found everything I did for Student Government rewarding,” he said. “Whether it was just being the leader for the up and coming members to follow, or coordinating school wide events with Mr. Steve Tripenfelds, principal, Miss Kyleen Eden, chemistry teacher, and Miss Twila Marsh, media specialist, so that everyone could participate.”

Student Government provided Matt with an opportunity to develop himself and figure out the kind of person he wanted to be.

“Without Student Government, I wouldn't be half the person I am today,” he said. “I tried to take lessons from every little thing I did, whether it was just running little unimportant meetings for other members, or announcing for something as big as the Homecoming pep rally or Battle of the Bands. Everything had a little lesson that helped me, I just had to look for it.”

## While some found tutoring

a chore, Eric Anderson, senior, took it as a way to share what he knew.

“By tutoring my classmates, I felt as though I was able to share my strengths with others and

*continued on page 165*

Around the halls, Grant Williams, junior, rounds up the last of the over 4,500 cans of foods collected as part of Student Government's holiday food drive “The food drive was a great way for people of any age to make a difference in the life of someone who needs help,” Grant said. Mr. Dave Russell's Creative Writing class collected 829 cans.



**Set to make her mark,** Lyndsey Ziembra, senior, doodles kids' names on their Snow Flurry shirts. "It was my first year [doing Snow Flurry]," Lyndsey said. "The best part was getting to know the kids."

**All in favor** of helping out at the Student Government-sponsored blood drive in April, Jelena Grozdanich, sophomore, sets the table. "It was a challenge for some students to donate, but hopefully, it was all worth it in the end when they knew they could help save someone else's life," Jelena said.

**While in study hall** Lexi West-erfield, sophomore, racks up some hours for Project X while picking up recycling on Wednesdays.



**Caught up** at the Speech and Debate barbecue, Paige Opinker, freshman, lends a hand with the food line. "I learned to achieve my goals," Paige said. "I had to put in time and effort."

**Deep in thought,** Kush Patel, junior, reviews the rules for Battle of the Bands. "It was disappointing," Kush said. "We put a lot of work into it and my key board wouldn't work."





## Giving back makes a Difference

continued from page 162

help them reach their goals. It was an amazing feeling. Participating with the younger kids through Parks and Recreation had also been amazing all year. Giving back to the people that made Munster so great was without a doubt one of the most rewarding experiences students could have, and I was glad National Honor Society (NHS) allowed me to have those opportunities. NHS was incredible in allowing me to acquire a greater sense of involvement with both Munster High School and the surrounding community," Eric said.

### When people heard "teenagers"

they associated them with their taste of music, clothes and other materialistic items, but students like Student Government vice president Nick Stoffregen, senior, applied a whole new spin to the name "teenager".

"Through Student Government I had the opportunity to volunteer my time for blood drives for the Red Cross, food drives for local shelters, and several annual activities, like Battle of the Bands, that allowed us to donate money to special causes," Nick said.

The activities that Student Government hosted allowed Nick to prove that he cared about helping those in need, rather than just the next big TV show.

"The most rewarding part of Student Government was being part of an effort trying to change the stigma that our generation was

**Arms filled** with posters from Mr. Kent Lewis, business teacher, Kamryn Klavitter, freshman, sets up for the DECA Bowl-a-thon. "I learned more about business ideas," Kamryn said. "I'm interested in business and finance. I will be able to use what I learned in the future."

selfish and disinterested in the needs of society. There was many mediums through which I could show that, but Student Government had been an influential one for me."

**Carefully choosing a color** and design, Freshman CEC member Andjela Radmilovic figured out the fun in CEC.

"We made the Homecoming t-shirts for the Freshman Class and we had to take everyone's ideas into consideration to put them together. It was fun designing the shirts. I met new people and got an appreciation for how to work with the student body. It gave me an insight on what they expect out of someone who they nominated. I learned more about working with people," Andjela said.

**With her knowledge** and understanding of math and science, NHS secretary Anisha Rastogi, senior, shared her wisdom.

"I spent my time as a tutor which helped me give back to the students by enabling kids to understand what I know in math and chemistry," Anisha said. "I found myself teaching on my own for chemistry. I developed my own method to help the kid I tutored. It felt good to make a difference. I made his struggles a little bit easier."

She dished out the help but Anisha also discovered some new "material" herself.

"I got patience through helping the kids," she said. "I couldn't get mad at them for not understanding the material. I saw it from their point of view especially the math student I tutored. I had to step into his shoes in order to help him understand the material."



**Around town** as she cleans up trash Jill Koselke, junior, picks up some Project X service hours as well. "It was important to help the community and make it look nice because it gave a good example to other communities," Jill said.

**In charge** of the dessert line for the Speech and Debate barbecue, sophomores Julia Shlensky, Allie Hurwich and Emily Sacudo point people to the right lines. "I was surprised so many people came out for [the barbecue]," Emily said. "We got a lot of people to contribute money."



**gleaming with pride** *Crier* editors Mary Baggett, Anna Guanzon and Gail Oesterle traveled to Philadelphia to claim their 4th place in Best in Show at the National Journalism Convention. "I was proud to accept (*Paragon's* 2nd place) for last year's staff," Mary said. It made me want to work harder on the yearbook and newspaper once we got back to town so that next year someone could accept awards for us and make all the hours of work worth it."

**Flute in hand** Jordan Newman, junior, marches in the Homecoming parade. The practices paid off for Jordan when the Band qualified for State and when they performed at Hawaii. Playing at Pearl Harbor over Spring Break proved to be Jordan's most memorable moment.



**With the applause** of his friends and family members, Christian Artega, senior, accepts his Art Show Award. "It was nice to be recognized for something I love to do," Christian said. The art show acknowledged the talents of students who loved to draw, paint, shoot photography or sculpt.

**routine rehearsal** After school, Alisa Bochnowski, sophomore, and Kenn O'Drobinak, junior, use both voice and body language to act out their "Eating Raoul" skit. "Our duo content was kind of controversial," Alisa said. "It wasn't very conservative, and Indiana is a very conservative state. Some judges really liked it and others would say 'Why would you get up there and do this?'"



# Working to make a name for Themselves

**Making a name for yourself** in school means different things to different people. For the active members of Academic Team, Publications, Speech & Debate and DECA it meant meeting responsibilities, placing well in competitions, and learning life lessons to further both academic and future careers.

“Dedication, desire and hard work were essential to the team’s progress. Those three things got us along.”

**Ruth Christopher**  
Speech & Debate member

**JETS’ success at State** made the Academic Team proud. “Our year was based around the competitions,” Paulina Kozupa, senior, said. “I wasn’t a part of JETS, but as a team we were proud when they placed 2<sup>nd</sup> because it was such an accomplishment.”

Guided by Ms. Shonna Siegers, science teacher, and Ms. Alyssa Stein, math teacher, the 25 active Academic Team members worked to enhance their knowledge and compete against other schools.

“We worked hard to keep our grades up and to be recognized in competitions to uphold Munster’s name,” Paulina said.

JETS placed 12<sup>th</sup> nationally and 2<sup>nd</sup> at State, which proved a significant accomplishment for the team, but the Science Olympiad also placed 5<sup>th</sup> at State.

“We did better in our building events than we have in the past which helped our score,” Ms. Siegers said.

The team’s accomplishments and work taught them life lessons.

“It was really important to us when the Science Olympiads placed 5<sup>th</sup>. We felt like we ac-

complished something,” Paulina said.

**Life on a deadline** became typical for the *Paragon* and *Crier* staff members who experienced deadlines on a regular basis.

The staffs took charge of designing and writing the publications both in class and after school. The 2007 yearbook earned a Pacemaker Finalist and numerous state honors, while *Crier* writers earned their own recognition. Nicole Hong, senior, earned two Quill and Scroll Gold Keys for her writing, while junior Zach Bucholtz’s sports story took tops in State with the Women’s Press Club of Indiana, and eight writers and photographers earned state recognition at Ball State in April.

“[This book] was a lot of work and took a lot of time out of our schedule,” Editor-in-Chief Christina Avgerinos, junior, said. “But, in the end when you see the finished product it was all worth it.”

The short-handed staff learned to juggle writing multiple stories, interviewing for captions and building visually tasteful layouts.

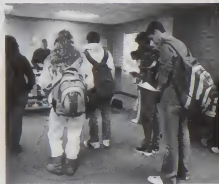
“With no returning writers, it was hard at first because none of us understood what needed to get done,” Christina said. “However, the four staff writers became really close and there were many of times when we had fun.”

The writers made the most of their time after school by playing practical jokes and goofing around.

“One time we put on huge Mardi Gras masks with feathers on them, and we tried to scare our adviser [Mrs. Nancy Hastings] while she was out getting three quarts of lemon rice

*continued on page 168*

**waiting their turn**, members of The Academic Super-bowl Team sat as they contemplated the next question. “We were watching another school’s team member answer the question,” Kim Long, senior, said.



**At full attention**, 29 DECA International qualifiers meet in the bookstore before school to discuss the May conference agenda. Mr. Kent Lewis, business teacher, handed out guides so they knew what would happen each of the five days they spent in Atlanta.

## Working to make a name for Themselves

continued from page 167

soup from Commander during one of our many late nights at school."

The staff knew when to be serious and focus though, especially when facing deadlines of more than 70 pages.

**Speaking clearly** proved easy for Speech and Debate members after the team sent 31 members to compete at Speech State in Lafayette, where they won 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Redemption proved equally sweet for the 24 debaters when the team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in State, behind Chesterton and West Lafayette.

The speakers had to place in the top seven at Sectionals to qualify for State. Placing was crucial for the members as they spent hours researching and practicing their oratories.

Carly Gibbs, senior, finished first in U.S. Ex-emp, which focuses on government. "I worked really hard to know my stuff," Carly said. "I researched as much as I could in the library or at home," Carly said. "It was really important to me to go far in this, it's what I liked to do."

Nine speakers made it all the way to nationals, as they qualified for the June National Forensic League (NFL) Speech and Debate Tournament in Las Vegas, ND.

The team also aimed at winning the Bruno E. Jacob Award for the most accumulated NFL

points. Munster last won this honor in 1989.

**Record-setting DECA** members took the state by storm as 79 members qualified for the trip to Indianapolis, where they won State by three points over Carmel. Breaking school records, the team qualified 29 members for the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, GA.

Robin Jiang, junior, one of the 29 qualifiers, believed the benefits of DECA membership would last long past the May conference.

"DECA helped set up networking, and also helped you focus on a particular aspect of business," Robin said. "It helped a lot for those who want to major in a certain kind of business. DECA's more involved than people think."

Students did practice tests to prepare for competitions, researched to know their business topic, and did practice worksheets to teach them more, and to help them remember what they had to do.

"We had meetings Tuesdays in the mornings and sometimes after school to discuss what we needed to do," Robin said. "It wasn't just the competitions, we did fund raising too."

The fund raisers helped with conference expenses, but also raised money to support research for children with Muscular Dystrophy.

**With helpful advice** in the library after school, Congress National qualifier Alicia Nieves, junior, sorts through files with coach, Mr. Glen Percifield, English teacher. "I researched as much as possible on particular bills," Alicia said.



und



**Conferencing** at the Indiana Academic Superbowl Invitational, team members work together to rack up their points. The Interdisciplinary Team qualified for state competition in West Lafayette.

**While in Philadelphia** for the National Journalism Convention, Gail Oesterle, sophomore, and Anna Guanzon and Mary Baggett, seniors, and visit the Liberty Bell at Independence Hall.



**Engrossed in working** on deadlines after school, Editor-in-Chief Christina Avgerinos, junior, and Kai Melder, sophomore, build spreads and polish stories. "At first making a yearbook didn't seem possible since it took about 22 hours to finish one spread, which was two pages," Christina said. "There were so many things to consider, but it ended up getting easier."



# Making

the most of it

"I learned about the deaf community [in ASL Club].

People don't realize that it is the same as ours because they don't understand."

Treasurer  
Jennifer Romano, senior

**Academic Team**  
Active members: 25  
Sponsors: Ms. Ayssa Stein, Miss Shonna Siegers  
Officers:  
President: Eric Anderson  
Vice-President: Nicole Hong  
Highlight Activity: Jets placed 2nd at State and 12th in the Nation.



Academic Team (front row) Brian Lewis, Arefin Chowdhury, Edwin Becker, Paulina Kozupa, Matt Thompson, Lazarick Whitlock (second row) Neil Doshi, Neil Kondamuri, Sujay Jayakar, Tyler Schwartz, Christopher Reba (third row) Mitch Hanak, Ben Taylor, Viraj Maniar, Rohan Warriar, Robin Jiang, Creg Fehlau (back row) Neal Shah, Fengyee Zhou, Sidarth Dasari, Grant Huebner, Jon Merritt, Eric Anderson, Chris Witter



Academic Team (front row) Ele Chakraborty, Kavita Dedania, Nirlep Kaur, Samantha Adler, Heena Patwari, David Trykall (second row) Adam Stepanowicz, Armando Ramirez, Kim Long, Nicole Hong, Rory Swafford, Santhosh Narayan (third row) Samantha Mardyla, Nikhil Bhagwat, Adam Cooper, Ariana Rodriguez, Vivek Dasari, Daniel Economou (back row) Talha Qureshi, Ryan Miller, Andrew Johnson, Pradeep Gopal, Brandon Weinberg, Stephen Ong, Dakota Thompson



ASL (front row) Amy Vogel, Katie Kocis, Karina Chavez, Allison Newman, Brittany Guy (second row) Lauren Blazevich, Laura Kinser, Eric Wysocki, Jenna Tritsch, Alex Cohen, Sarah Mihich (back row) Nirlep Kaur, Emily Carlson, Lazarick Whitlock, Matt Thompson, Kaylee Brandon, Michele Murday, Danica Rodriguez



Auditorium Staff (front row) Jonathan Wachala, Kathryn Krull, Morgan Midkiff, Lorissa Pietruszka, Stephanie Grabarczyk, Adrienne Aull, Jessica Van Wieren (second row) Jacob Chergon, Jessica Kwasiewski, Katherine Bobek, Kassia Groszewski, Janelle Boudreau, Melissa Lee, Eric Roach, Andrew Frye (third row) Danielle Cachic, David Kiesling, Kenn O'Drobinak, Ryan Pohre, Hunter Muckel, Clarke Remmers, Justin Mulesa (back row) Shawn Tuttle, Aaron Caldwell, Bernie Vassallo, Adam Goodwin, Adam Bobek, Nick Van Wieren, John Carlson, Mike Phillips

## Auditorium Staff

Active members: 40  
Sponsor: Mr. Larry A. Brechner  
Officers:  
Technical Director: Kurt Popovich  
Production Manager: Nick Van Wieren, Janelle Boudreau  
Highlight Activity: Working behind the scenes for four productions

**Art Club**  
Active members: 25  
Sponsor: Mrs. Elena Lopez  
Officers:  
President: Adam Cooper  
Vice-President: Sophia Raziuddin  
Secretary: Rose Nowicki  
Treasurer: Marco Estrada  
Accomplishment: Participating in the Gourd Design Contest, and preparing for their annual April art show



Art Club (front row) Jessica Monjaras, Nisha Raiker, Marlonna Cane, Allison Samaniego, Lissa Barrios, Lana Nguyen, Nikki Graham, Monica Shah, Marcelina Manuel, Brittany Lara (second row) Brittany Maul, Kristin Augustyn, Bianca Cordova, Sophia Raziuddin, Samera Raziuddin, Morgan Midkiff, Janed Evans, Adam Cooper, Mythili Chintamani, Samantha Flynn (third row) Kavita Dedania, Hannah Anderson, Colleen Majszak, Elisha Jachna, Alexa Koutourides, Claudia Portillo, Madison Gallegos, Cara Bruzan, Grace Heaney, Reema Shah (back row) Jenny Deeken, Fabian Garcia, Marco Estrada, Nathan Zembala, Alex Chihara, Josh Bobek, Brian Clark, Omar Prado, Sara Ambry, Tammy Montella, Niral Shah

**American Sign Language**  
Active members: 20-30  
Sponsor: Mrs. Lynn Schumacher  
Officers:  
Presidents: Andrew Drudge, Emily Sojka  
Vice-Presidents: Jerina Brakulis, Alex Hora  
Secretary: Jordana Boton  
Treasurer: Jennifer Romano  
Highlight Activity: Caroling for the deaf



ASL (front row) Jennifer Romano, Ashley Arens, Jordana Boton, Debbie Wilczynski, Emily Sojka, Alex Hora (second row) Adam Cooper, Punam Tiwana, Jenna Brakulis, Andrew Drudge, Brittany Zebner, Eric DeBarge (third row) Molly Imrich, Stephan Zajac, Emily Imrich, Nick Morfas, Melissa Rangel, Kaitlin Hines (back row) Spencer Newell, Chris Witter, Eric Anderson, Rizzie Fisher, Sarah Rubino, Brianna Rubesha, Lindsay Hayes



Auditorium Staff (front row) Kai Melder, Allison Newman, Haley Conger, Samantha Adler, Adrienne Slankowski, Erin Montgomery, Laura Aguilar (second row) Anastasia Papadatos, Katie Palmer, Bethany Borgo, Kurt Popovich, David Blumberg, Emilie Riggs, Bridget McCullough (back row) Kaylee Brandon, Emily Carlson, Nirlep Kaur, Britney Breger, Emily Scholtz, Katie Verkruyse, Kelle Nadratowski, Hannah Wagner

## CEC, Freshman

Active members: 12

**Sponsors:**  
Mr. Michael Coil,  
Mrs. Valerie Pluff  
**Highlight Activity:**  
Preparing t-shirts for  
the Freshman Class  
and the Homecoming  
Parade



CEC, Freshman (front row) Ele Chakroborty, Andjela Radmilovic, Kamryn Klawitter, Jelena Todorovic (second row) Tyler German, Shawn Tuttle, Ben Gonzalez, Erica Keeler

## CEC, Sophomore

Active members: 12

**Sponsors:**  
Mrs. Katie Harris,  
Mr. Joe Sokol  
**Officers:**  
President  
Niyati Shah  
Vice-President  
Bailey Voss  
Secretary  
Melissa Lee  
Treasurer  
Michael Doherty  
**Highlight Activity:**  
Float building during  
Homecoming



CEC, Sophomore (front row) Niyati Shah, Melissa Lee, John Bochnowski, Emma Grdina, Allie Hurwich (second row) Bailey Voss, Neil Kondamuri, Matt Skiba, Michael Doherty, Thomas Burgwald, Kara Curosh

## CEC, Junior

Active members: 13

**Sponsor:**  
Mrs. Julian Acovez,  
Mrs. Jackie Podkul  
**Highlight Activity:**  
Planning Prom  
as a goodbye for the  
seniors



CEC, Junior (front row) Lizzy Stone, Zach Langebein, Daniel Linneer, Brian Lewis, Lindsay Hayes, Laura Kinser (second row) Mitch Hanak, AJ Spolnik, Joe Gill, Ben Taylor, Viraj Maniar, Rizzie Fisher

## DECA

Active members: 130

**Sponsor:** Mr. Kent  
Levis  
**Officers:**  
President  
Adam Cooper  
Vice President  
Robin Jiang  
Secretary  
Viraj Maniar  
Treasurer  
Siddharth Dasari  
Reporter  
Erin McIntyre  
**Accomplishment:**  
Won State and  
qualified 29 stu-  
dents for interna-  
tionals in Atlanta,  
GA



DECA (front row) Nithin Krishnan, Kamryn Klawitter, Paige Opinker, John Bochnowski, Robin Jiang, Federico Olasebikan, Ben Goldenberg, Zach Tritsch (second row) Eric Anderson, Kurt Leeney, Christopher Reba, Neil Kondamuri, Chris Witter, Brandon Anderson, Matt Brozovic (third row) Clarke Remmers, Hunter Muckel, Sujay Jayakat, Tyler Schwartz, Greg Fehiau, Josh Brodsky, Anup Segu (back row) Rohan Warriar, Joe Krupa, Marcin Kuzma, Kevin Nossem, Siddharth Dasari, Paul Kuzma, Nolan Sliko, Garrett Mintz



CEC, Senior (front row) Marc Campos, Sam Kasmak, Nicoleta Codutu, Patrick Doherty, Amanda Scott (back row) Blake Williams, Tashi Damjanovich, Andrew Kaminski, Blake Platt, Russell Gonzalez



Color Guard (front row) Haley Conger, Kaitelin Lewandowski, Allison Newman, Amy Vogel (back row) Andrea Manchak, Janelle Boudreau, Kelsey Ellingsen, Rachel Hlaska, Samantha Alder



Crier (front row) Nicole Hong, Stephanie Gorman, Lauren Fuhrmeyer, Sarah Roberts, Gail Oesterle, Adam Cooper (back row) Mrs. Nancy Hastings, Anna Guanzon, Mary Baggett, Carl Bolanowski, Kyle Boyd, Dudley Paquette, Zach Bucholtz

## CEC, Senior

Active members: 12

**Sponsor:**  
Mrs. Beth Vesa, Mr.  
Chris Tomcsi  
**Officers:**  
President  
Sam Kasmak  
Vice President  
Tashi  
Damjanovich  
Secretary  
Amanda Scott  
**Highlight Activity:**  
Homecoming Float  
building and the  
Senior Banquet

## Color Guard

Active members: 80

**Sponsor:**  
Mrs. Connie  
Golando  
**Highlight Activity:**  
Performance  
at Pearl Harbor in  
Hawaii over Spring  
Break with the  
Band

## Crier

Active members: 16

**Sponsor:** Mrs.  
Nancy Hastings  
**Editors:**  
Editor-in-Chief  
Anna Guanzon  
Managing Editor  
Nicole Hong  
**Highlight Activity:**  
Publishing 13  
issues of the tri-  
weekly newspaper,  
along with travel-  
ing to Philadelphia,  
PA for the national  
fall JEA/NSPA con-  
vention

“The fact that  
[Senior CEC]  
stayed on  
top of things  
especially  
with two new  
sponsors  
[was and  
accomplish-  
ment.]”

Senior CEC  
sponsor  
Mr. Chris  
Tomcsi,  
math teacher

# Making

the most of it



**DECA** (front row) Shirin Kamalipour, Sameera Raziuddin, Ines Tzolov, Abhinav Ravi, Punam Tiwana, Erica Case, Emily Chen (second row) Kush Patel, Khashayar Farhadi, Adam Cooper, Vivek Dasari, Charli Patel, Mubarak Singh, Dakota Thompson, Tessa McCuan (third row) Mitch Hanak, Viraj Maniar, Katelyn Chovanec, Alex Choi, Aaditya Shah, Samantha Chintamani, Nikhil Bhargava (back row) Cara Bruzan, Samantha Mardilya, Chloe Morgan, Patrick McIntyre, Buddy Bocher, Neil Doshi, Grant Williams, Jacob Tepperman



**French Club** (front row) Keaton Aktay, Jamie Lissy, Ann Perz, Ashley Norris, Amanda Hoffman, Abbey Brokop, Aleksandra Sijivar (second row) Katie Banks, Mary Baggett, Mimi Grozdanich, Alek Shmagranoff, Sam Tantillo, Kasia Groszewski, Alex Rosales, Lizzy Stone (third row) Chris Cheng, Clarke Remmers, Federico Olmoshikan, Brian Ritz, Sean Tomazin, Matt Pulossek, Heather Boyan (back row) Adam Belkairou, Matt Boyan, Grant Huebner, Jovan Anjelich, Adam Goodwin, Adam Bobeck, Mitch Bruhn, Jon Merritt



**DECA** (front row) Aesha Maniar, Kavita Dedania, Sophia Raziuddin, Michael Dovellos, Andrew Koulourides, Arefin Chowdhury, Heena Patwar, Mythili Chintamani (second row) Jennifer Peters, Danica Rodriguez, Rachael Trevino, Sara Rasamimari, Michele Murday, Erin Wysocki, Megha Kumar, Stacey Avtys (third row) Jessica Kitchell, Taylor Hodges, Sarah Chowdhury, Shivani Patel, Chris Chyang, Sarthosh Narayan, Jessica Koettitz, Breck Scarnavack (back row) Bri Anderson, Michelle Chung, Isabella Ramirez, Kaitlyn Hobbs, Ariana Rodriguez, Erin McIntyre, Tara Mojtahed, Chandani Bhatt, Yena Choi



**French Club** (front row) Elaine Klema, Jessica Kitchell, Elisha Jachna, Holly Stevens, Danica Rodriguez, Erin Wysocki, Ryan Caslek (second row) Rachel Shmagranoff, Megan Hussey, Sophie Griggs, Adam Cooper, Rory Swafford, Adam Belkairou, Nicole Hong, Kim Long (third row) Joey Belkairou, Chris Witter, Kyle Mundy, Michael Adam, Niraj Shah, Angela Teth, Daniel Linnear (back row) Eric Anderson, Grant Williams, Kevin Nossom, Martin Kuzma, Sean Georgas, Jason Rutkowski, Chris Reba, Nick Brown

“I gained a better knowledge of French foods and how they tasted and how to prepare the food. It was fun and I wasn't stressed out. You got to sit back and relax.”

French Club member  
**Mitch Bruhn**, senior

## Ensemble, Mixed Active Members: 20

**Sponsor:**  
Dr. Tim Bartlett  
**Highlight**  
Activity: Took a trip to Augustana College in October for a festival



**Ensemble, Mixed** (front row) Jenny Eskander, Stephanie Sepiol, David Blumberg, Bethany Borgo, Clarissa Gosciej (second row) Lyndsey Hernandez, Jonathan Wachala, Melissa Hernandez, Samanth Chintamani, Krista Zagor, Katie Anderson (back row) Kenneth O'Drobinak, Clarke Remmers, Mark Knight, Tanner Olo, Charlie Krull, Tony Jurich, Doug Johnson

## Ensemble, Women's Active Members: 25

**Sponsor:**  
Dr. Tim Bartlett  
**Highlight**  
Activity: Performing for Lights for Life during the holidays



**Ensemble, Women's** (front row) Brittany Guy, Mary Webber, Heather Hajduk, Mandy Here, Mythili Chintamani, Nicole Perez (second row) Melissa Webber, Gabrielle Rappin, Madelyn Hedin, Kristin Opperman, Shailee Kumar, Hannah Kurkowski (third row) Jelena Grozdanich, Katie Verkruse, Nicole Raynor, Olivia Yates, Jessica Peach, Samantha Strimel (back row) Sara Galante, Elyse Estes, Camille Burger, Alex Kattan, Tabitha Strong, Lisa Zurek, Sami Bonessa



**French Club** (front row) Ariana Rodriguez, Jill Magsaysay, Michelle Phillipsborn, Ashley Pickert, Karina Fonseca, Sara Rasamimari, Judith Maddatu (second row) Katie Palmer, Jackie Alvarado, Elodie Enger, Keaton Aktay, Alex Rosales, Katherine Andreates, Rachel Morrow, Andrea Siamkowski (third row) Alesandra Mora, Jackie Kovach, Alan Cipich, Amina Benman, Sameera Raziuddin, Sophia Raziuddin, Samanth Chintamani (back row) Molly Pozontek, Annie Koulianos, Emma Gullata, Madolyn Hedin, Chloe Witter, Danielle Szumlas, Lovelyn Pastrana, Tommy Bassetto



**French Club** (front row) Val Carillo, Clarissa Gosciej, Dustin Drzich, Mythili Chintamani, Samantha Adler, Lana Nguyen (second row) Karina Chavez, Jan Dominguez, Helen Bisiculis, Allison Samaniego, Mariona Cane, Ximena Fernandez de Cordova (third row) Jeremy Mudro, Alex Prieto, Tim Carlson, Sharif Rahmany, Michael Briette, Jo-Don Bradley (back row) Joe Palma, Alyssa Blaisioris, Shelby Carlson, Abel Gutierrez, Stephan Zajac, Jessica Castillo, Shelby Haiao



# Top 5

largest clubs

## 1 Spanish Club

309 members

## 3 Munster Theatre Company

120 members

## 2 DECA

130 members

## 4 National Honor Society

(tie) 110 members

SADD

110 members

### German Club

Active members: over 100

#### Sponsor:

Mrs. Eileen Meier

#### Officers:

President

Kerian Ballanco

Vice President

Andrew Johnson

Secretary

Steve Markovich

Treasurer

Katie Kikalos

#### Highlight Activity:

Gone with the Wind

Chicago for the

Christmas market



German Club (front row) Martha Mihich, Behnoosh Kamali, Erin Montgomery, Rachel Colias, Heena Patwari (second row) Brittany Zehner, Michelle Philipborn, Kristina Keith, Ximena Fernandez de Cordova, Hannah Kurowski (back row) Amina Benman, Edyta Borowicz, Larkin McKenzie, Melissa Webber, Karina Chavez



Munster Theatre Company (front row) Kim Long, Elyse Estes, Melissa Lee, Katherine Bobek, Adrienne Ault, Janelle Boudreau, Danielle Cacich (second row) Eric Roach, Andrew Frye, David Kiesel, Justin Mulesa, Kenneth O'Driscoll, Doug Johnson, Jacob Chergan, Kassia Groszewski (third row) Daniel Linneat, Michael Goldberg, Hunter Muckel, Mike Phillips, Shawn Tuttle, Ryan Pohrt, Clarke Remmers (back row) Mark Knight, Aaron Caldwell, Bernie Vassallo, John Carlson, Adam Goodwin, Adam Bobeck, Tanner Olio, Nick Van Wieren



German Club (front row) Holly Stevens, Daniel Economou, Chris Yothment, Kurt Leeney, Kayla Bachert, Brandon Sparks, Tetsuo Toyama (second row) Elizabeth Green, Eric Barth, Caleb Kurowski, Andrew Johnson, Sam Cummings, Pero Ogizovich, Joe O'Brien, Anja Mitze (third row) Matt Gehrig, Ryan Otto, Patrick O'Brien, Adam Carroll, Shawn Tuttle, Hunter Muckel, Aaron Cooper (back row) Josh Bobeck, Aaron Caldwell, Luke Kurowski, Daniel Creagh, Adam Bobeck, Steve Markovich, Nicholas Van Wieren, Eric Anderson



Munster Theatre Company (front row) Erin Montgomery, Allison Newman, Haley Conger, Jessica Kwasniewski, Michael Dovollos, Kurt Popovich, Bethany Bongo, Hannah Kurowski (second row) David Blumberg, Katie Anderson, Laura Aguilar, Mary Sandrick, Stephanie Sepiol, Gail Osterle, Kai Molzer, Marilee Cervin (third row) Samantha Curtis, Jonathan Wachala, Kathryn Krull, Kaylee Brandon, Samantha Adler, Emily Scholtz, Emily Carlson, Hannah Wagner (back row) Lindsey Hernandez, Anastasia Papadatos, Bridget McCullough, Emilie Riggs, Brinye Breege, Morgan Midkiff, Kellie Nadratowski, Nirlep Kaur



German Club (front row) Stephanie Sepiol, Hannah Wagner, Whitney Dumas, Rory Swafford, Mitch Lyness, Kayla Macadillo, Caren DeCesaris (second row) Eleni Agapoulos, Evan Sylvester, Gabrielle Sapota, Emily McCullough, Brenda Mintz, Sam Shields, Bridget McCullough, Marilee Varven (third row) Ariana Dremonas, Lauren Fuehrmeyer, Jessica Hilbrich, Erin Hott, Julie Zivich, Kerian Ballanco, Marko Gvero (back row) Adam Cooper, Mary Drzich, Brittany Maul, Christina Terry, Dima Serguenco, Hannah Anderson, Alex Chihara, Adam Barth



Munster Theatre Company (front row) Kathryn Wadas, Tony Campana, Jenny Eskander, Julianne Watterson, Mallory McShane (second row) Emma Grdina, Andrea Slankowski, Jelena Grodzanich, Madolyn Hedin, Katie Palmer (third row) Katie Verkruse, Sarah Roque, Olivia Yates, Alex Kattan, Nicole Raynor, Paige Opinkier (back row) Brenda Mintz, Jessica Van Wieren, Stephanie Grabarczyk, Malissa Hernandez, Courtney Hayle, Loren Estes, Brian Lewis

### Munster Theatre Company

Active Members:

120

#### Sponsor: Mr. Larry A. Brechner

#### Officers:

President

Katherine Wadas

1st Vice President

Stephanie Sepiol

2nd Vice President

Kenn O'Driscoll

#### Highlight Activity:

Four productions,

including the Novice

play Wild Cats, Fall

Musical Godspell,

Winter play Curse

of the Cobra's Kiss

and Spring Musical

Guns and Dolls



# Making

the most of it

## National Honor Society

Active members:

110

Sponsor:

Miss Valerie Pflum

Officers:

Blake Platt

Jenny Eskander

Vice President

Mimi Grozdanich

Secretary

Anisha Rastogi

Treasurer

Kim Long

**Accomplishment:**

Tutored over

400 kids



National Honor Society (front row) Annie Marinakos, Jessica Cuadra, Ryan Miller, Mimi Grozdanich, Nicole Hong, Marc Campos, Stephen Ong (second row) Timothy Yee, Alex Rosales, Sophie Griggs, Andrew Kamirer, Pat Howard, Jeff Florek, Sonny Marcotic, Matt Thompson (third row) Brett Bertagnoli, Kaitlin Hines, Ashley Lair, Kelly Mashura, Kristen Pagan, Patrick Doherty, John Jurkash (back row) Lazarick Whitlock, Neil Keshvani, Buddy Becher, Amy Fuhs, Paulina Kozupa, Anna Guanzon, Neil Doshi, Chris Cheng



National Honor Society (front row) Molly White, Julianne Watterson, Sarah Johnson, Alex Cohen, Jackie Kovach, Kari Michniewicz, Ashley Moore (second row) Ariana Rodriguez, Sarah Chowdhury, Poja Kansal, Ed Gier, Tieg Alexander, Gina Novakovich, Adam Cooper, Punam Tiwana (third row) Breanne Lawler, Alek Shmagranoff, Lovelyn Pastrana, Ruth Christopher, Megan Hruska, Julie Zivich, Kim Long



National Honor Society (front row) Jessica Hilbrich, Caleb Kurowski, Jennifer Peng, Russell Gonzalez, Sara Galante, Angela Hehn, Eleanor Kennedy (second row) Blake Platt, Sam Kasmark, Kyle Stuart, James Burgwald, Nicoletta Coduti, Shannon McCarthy, Kassia Grozowski, Andrew Johnson (third row) Penn Ogrzovich, Charlie Krull, Jon Merritt, Tim Qualls, Tashi Damjanovich, Tadiha Strong, Brian Ritz (back row) Neal Shah, Mark Knight, Eric Anderson, Jovan Andjich, Brandon Miller, Nicholas Stoffregen, Blake Williams, Tommy Bassetto



National Honor Society (front row) Jenny Eskander, Anisha Rastogi, Melissa Capop, Judith Madlato, Suchita Rastogi, Samantha Curtis, Farhah Hossain (back row) Carly Gibbs, Meagan Yothment, Kathryn Grace Wadas, Mallory McShane, Bailey Remec, Danny Alexander, Katie Anderson



Paragon (front row) Taylor Hubbard, Sarah Roberts, Stephanie Gorman, Lauren Fuehrmeyer, Christina Agalinos, Kai Melder (back row) Mrs. Nancy Hastings, Carl Bolanowski, Ann Perz, Mary Baggett, Katie Verkyne, Dudley Paquette, Kyle Boyd

## Paragon

Members: 14

Sponsor: Mrs.

Nancy Hastings

Editor-in-chief:

Christina Agalinos

**Accomplishment:**

Producing the

yearbook with only

4 winter editors

who had no year-

book experience

“While in NHS I met wonderful people through nursing homes. They really touched my life in more ways than I could imagine.”

Treasurer

Kim Long,

senior



Orchestra (front row) Madolyn Hedin, Armando Ramirez, Nikhil Bhagwat, Chris Chyung, Kristina Kovacich, Brenda Mintz, Sean Carey (second row) Tieg Alexander, Angela Hehn, Sean Tomazin, Sam Metz, Jennifer Peng, Mary Sandrick, Courtney Hoyle, Daya Devanathan (third row) Sam Cummings, Andrew Johnson, George Saman, James Willis, Michael Marvity, Aaron Cooper, Tim Kearney (back row) Clarke Remmers, Joseph Krupa, Anna Dorn, Tanner Olo, James Cherrie, Robby Howard, Alex Vlahu, Tyler Drabenstot

## Orchestra

Active members:

68

Sponsor:

Mrs. Jill Cook

Officers:

President

Angela Hehn

Vice President

Andrew Johnson

Secretary

Jennifer Peng

Treasurer

Nikhil Bhagwat

**Accomplishment:**

Getting a Gold at In-

diana State School

Music Association

(ISSMA) competition

and four concerts



**Orchestra** (front row) Melissa Webber, Allison DeGeorge, Milena Lulic, Haley Conger, Mythili Chintamani, Aesha Manian (second row) Allison Newman, Kristen Pulley, Yena Choi, Hannah Kurowski, Martha Mihich, Marelle Cerven (third row) Sarah Mihich, Lovelyn Pastrana, Anastasia Papadatos, Ariana Rodriguez, Lindsay Moore, Isabella Ramirez, Michelle Chung (back row) Bridget McCullough, Bethany Borgo, Nirlep Kaur, Emily Scholtz, Christina Lee, Hannah Wagner, Adam Cooper, Pooja Khatiwada

"It was nice to see that I could help people by doing little things."

**Project X member Angelina Mandic, sophomore**

—put in 100 hours of community service



**Project X** (front row) Phoebe Conner, Elisha Jachna, Angelina Mandic, Erin Hott, Holly Stevens, Lainey Williams, Aava Khatiwada (second row) Morgan Midkiff, Roberta Ricchio, Molly Imrich, Emily Imrich, Cara Brizan, Josh Wojcik, Chris Wadlow, Britney Breyer (third row) Kayle Goldsmith, Niral Shah, Tyler Schwartz, Ben Goldenberg, Dominic Ruffalo, Danielle Casich, Michael Dovellos (back row) Blake Williams, Heather Boyan, Robby Howard, Ben Varnum, Grant Williams, Sara Amby, Jennifer Rudder, Steve Markovich



**Project X** (front row) Dudley Paquette, Kaitlyn Plewniak, Gina Novakovich, Julie Zivich, Sarah Johnson, Pooja Khatiwada, Kayla Macadlo (second row) Kate Novak, Melissa Beary, Alexis Ginn, Vanessa Cordova, Ann Perz, Tiffany Madura, Paige Spinks, Nicole Hong (third row) Ines Tzolov, Emily Speckman, Mary Drach, Kerian Ballanco, Lisa Zurek, Tess Edvardsen, Jessica Biesek (back row) Stephanie Skerich, Kelly Wold, Armando Ramirez, Chris Reba, Eric Anderson, Jillian Koseike, Lori Hoffman, Amanda Hoffman



**Project X** (front row) Amanda Rogers, Ariel Fischer, Bridget McCullough, Kellie Nadratowski, Shelby Sarnowski, Rebecca Bernardi, Elise Keeler (second row) Kathryn Frakes, Adam Stepanovic, Steven Zahariadis, Andrea Dell'Aquila, Stacey Wierman, Morgan Dinga, Sarah Sikora, Katie Dobis (third row) Danielle Szumlas, Kristina Kovacic, Natalie Fischer, Steve Losinicki, Andrea Slinkowski, Katie Palmer, Lauren Pazik (back row) Karina Chavez, Amy Vogel, Rebecca Shah, Sarah Posey, Danica Rodriguez, Michele Murday, Sameera Raziuddin, Jon Newcomb



**Project X** (front row) Ariel Callahan, Jessica Kitchell, Kurt Alberson, Rachael Trevino, Nicole Perez, Brittany Guy (second row) Breck Samavack, Taylor Hodges, Madison Gallegos, Marjorie Cane, Elle Kirby, Jamie Lissy, Jessica Koettertz (third row) Jessica Munjares, Michelle Philippon, Sara Rasamimari, Aesha Maniar, Megha Kumar, Kavita Dedania, Karina Fonseca (back row) Isabella Ramirez, Tara Mojtabed, Yena Choi, Michelle Chung, Katie Taylor, Ashley Moore, Jackie Kovach, Erica Case



**Project X** (front row) Emma Grdina, Alexandria Doctor, Christina Paszyk, Lexi Westerfeld (back row) Kristie Miller, Anika Jeter, Colleen Boyle, Brianna Solola, Jenny Rooh

**Project X**  
Active members: 60  
Sponsor: Ms. Darlene Acosta  
Officers:  
President: Tess Edvardson  
Vice President: Ben Varnum  
Secretary: Aava Khatiwada  
Treasurer: Grant Williams  
Highlight Activity: Participating with the community

# Making

the most of it

## SADD

Active members:

110

Sponsor: Ms.

Darlene Acosta

Officers:

President

Kim Long

Vice President

Julie Zivich

Secretary

Jackie Kovach

Treasurer

Grant Williams

Highlight Activity:

Prom because

throughout the

year they geared

up for it.



SADD (front row) Aesha Maniat, Ashley Pickett, Brittany Guy, Haley Conger, Amy Vogel (second row) Julia Shlersky, Christina Pasyk, Amanda Rogers, Christine Lissy, Alexandria Doctor (back row) Anel Fischer, Kayle Goldsmith, Christina Averinos, Breck Scarnavack, Taylor Hodges, Rachael Trevino



SADD (front row) Vanessa Cordova, Matt Goodman, Tess Edvardsen, Kurt Albersen, Cara Bruzan, Sarah Posey, Mimi Gvozdenich (second row) Angelina Mandic, Ines Trzlov, Jennifer Ridder, Paulina Kozupa, Eleanor Kennedy, Lisa Zurek, Emily Speckman, Katie Miller (third row) Jennifer Peng, Tabitha Strong, Heather Boyan, Kisa Hurwich, Grant Williams, Eric Anderson, Alex Kattan (back row) Tim Qualls, Tashi Damjanovich, Jovan Andjelich, Ben Varnum, Seth Flahaven, Marcin Kuzma, Grant Huebner, Blake Williams



SADD (front row) Nicole Montella, Colleen Boyle, Kristie Miller, Meagan Yothment, Julie Zivich, Kim Long, Steph Dvors (second row) Poja Khatiwada, Ruth Christopher, Adam Cooper, Bryan Ong, Sameera Raziuddin, Mythili Chintamani, Morgan Midkiff, Megan Hruska (third row) Michael Doherty, Miriam Stock, Ariana Rodriguez, Holly Stevens, Erin Hott, Mary Drzich, Alison Bergmann (back row) Aubrey Reno, Sonny Marcetic, Nora Kish, Sophie Koufos, Alessandra Mora, Alana Phelan, Matt Thompson, Paige Opinkier



SADD (front row) Jessica Kitchell, Jessica Koetteritz, Bernadette Bowen, Karina Chavez, Madison Gallegos, Phoebe Conner, Jamie Lissy (second row) Sophia Raziuddin, Reema Shah, Kavita Dedania, Karina Fonseca, Lori Hoffman, Katherine Pack, Stephanie Skertich, Jessica Kwannewick (third row) Kelly Wold, Andres Dell'Aquila, Ellen Schwartz, Alex Cohen, Jackie Kovach, Lazarick Whitlock, Michael Becka (back row) Alyssa Mia Djuric, Lauren Pazik, Ximena Fernandez de Cordova, Katie Palmer, Lainey Williams, Jenny Rooth, Andrea Slamkowski, Danielle Szumlas



Speech and Debate (front row) Joel Ratajack, Niral Shah, Ben Goldenberg, Michael Goldenberg, Risa Hurwich, Obstaripoo Gbagi, Onaneme Gbagi (second row) Olivia Yates, Nithin Krishnan, Anup Segal, Alicia Nieves, Clarke Remmen, Hunter Muckel, Elyse Estes, Justin Mulesa (third row) Joe Krupa, Eric Barth, Charlie Krull, Chris Reba, Josh Brodsky, Shawn Tuttle, Arjun Kumar (back row) Ken O'Drobinak, Sarah Johnson, Sara Galante, Ben Varnum, Adam Bobeck, Fengyu Zhou, Alex Kattan, Robin Jiang



Speech and Debate (front row) Nikhil Bhagwat, Adam Stepanovic, Jonathan Alvarez, Katie Palmer, Lovelyn Pastrana, Meagan Yothment, Andrea Slamkowski (second row) Shirin Kamalipour, Colleen Boyle, Emma Grdina, Alison Bergmann, Danielle Szumlas, Lauren McGill, Alexandria Doctor, Ellen Schwarz (third row) Sarah Chowdhury, Nicole Hong, Amanda Porter, Madolyn Hedin, Nisha Raker, Sarah Roope, Natasha Kanai (back row) Katherine Bobek, Kathryn Krull, Kirsten Slaboski, Megan Hruska, Julianne Watterson, Paige Opinkier, Taylor Marcus, Melissa Lee



Speech and Debate (front row) Kristina Keith, Punam Tiwana, Karina Fossen, Michael Dovelos, Kurt Albersen, Allie Hurwich, Katherine Andrusos (second row) Michael Bednarowski, Chris Wadlow, Samantha Adler, Heena Patwari, Michell Chung, Nirlep Kaur, Hannah Wagner, Haley Conger (third row) Aesha Maniat, Isabel Ramirez, Kavita Dedania, Monica Shah, Tara Mohtabed, Chandani Bhatt, Megha Kumar (back row) Marethe Cerven, Jenny Fekander, Molly White, Tyler German, Aaditya Shah, Christopher Chung, Santhosh Narayan, Sumathi Chintamani



Speech and Debate (front row) Sam Morse, Ele Chakraborty, Kara Curosh, Nikhi Kanai, Paige Kyriakos (second row) Behnoosh Kamali, Julia Shlersky, Kara McGowan, Martha Mihich, Ruby Kim, Breck Scarnavack (back row) Jessica Kwannewick, Emily Sauxedo, Jenny Deeken, Yena Choi, Jenny Rooth, Paige Patterson, Miriam Stock

"I gained] Public speaking and researching skills which will help with my future career and networking. I also gained fantastic friends."

Speech State Qualifier Jessica Hilbrich, senior





**Speech and Debate** (front row) Mike Pudlow, Elizabeth Wadas, Shailee Kumar, Jennier Razey, Tommy Castello, Abhinav Ravi, Ines Tzolov, Katie Mavity (second row) Katie Verkruyse, Ruth Christopher, Jeff Florek, Stephen Ong, Tony Jurich, Arefin Chowdhury, Stephanie Sepul, Carly Gibbs (third row) Chris Witter, Sophia Raziuddin, Reema Shah, Jessica Hilbrich, Spencer Newell, Samantha Newell, Samantha Mardyla, Sameera Raziuddin (back row) Devin Gosberry, Reahna Christopher, Eleanor Kennedy, Gabe Harangody, Garrett Mintz, Daniel Linneer, Russell Gonzalez, Lorian Estes

## Speech and Debate

Members: 185

Director:

Mrs. Helen

Engstrom

Coaches:

Mr. Jordan Mayer

Mr. Glen Perciasepe

Mrs. Tammy Daugherty

Mr. Steve Kennedy

Mrs. Kathleen Kennedy

Mr. Jim Thorpe

Mr. Don Fortner

Officers:

President

Carly Gibbs

Vice President

Megan Vohmert

Highlight Activity:

Qualifying nine students

for NFL Nationals in Las

Vegas in June

"I joined Spanish Club so I could understand Spanish better."

Spanish Club member

**Angela Gonzalez,** freshman



**Spanish Club** (front row) Allison Skimehorn, Danielle Cacich, Spencer Newell, Joseph Kruza, Michael Mavity, Taylor Marcus, Brandon White (second row) Bailey Voss, Ines Tzolov, Eric Anderson, Joe Wull, Greg Meyer, Fengyue Zhou, Alex Ostoch, Russell Gonzalez (third row) Dan Johnson, Jon Newcomb, Matt Farel, G.W. Childs, Craig Dohman, Josh Steinberg, Jose Delgado (back row) Julie Janis, Jon Crisman, Garrett Broadnax, AJ Spolnik, Ben Varnum, Seth Fishaven, Marcin Kuzma, Matt Sikiba



**Spanish Club** (front row) Kyle O'Brien, Alexandro Bazan, Dakota Thompson, Rachel Hluska, Britney Breger, Timothy Yee, Ian Pavnick (second row) Armando Ramirez, Sarah Posey, Matt Goodman, Jessica Biesick, Tess Edwards, Grant Williams, Vanessa Cordova, Sophie Koutos Zahradas, Derek Carlson (back row) Blake Williams, Matt Fehring, Brandon Weinberg, Michael Baggett, Lisa Zurek, Kathryn Frakes, Elaine Pitas, Jonathan Alvarez

## Spanish Club

Members: 309

Sponsor: Miss

Meghan Bialas

Officers:

President

Tim Yee

Vice President

Sarah Johnson

Secretary

Matt Goodman

Highlight Activity:

Making the Justo

Lamas concert a

success by creating

signs and making the

auditorium present-

able.



**Spanish Club** (front row) Erick Ferrer, Gabrielle Pressley, Kyela Specht, Paige Spinks, Adam Cooper, Elizabeth Wadas, Chandler Marcus (second row) Lindsey Kitchell, Christina Avergnos, Julia Shlensky, Laine Williams, Allie Hurvich, Kristie Miller, Ruby Gini, Slurm Kamalpour (third row) Jenny Rooth, Emily Speckman, Danielle Szumlas, Andrea Slamkowski, Erica Case, Kristina Kovach, Katie Miller (back row) Ben Goldenberg, Emily Chen, Brianna Meyer, Michael Doherty, Kaitlyn Plewniak, Katie Silaj, Elie Kirby, Matt Brozovic



**Spanish Club** (front row) Rima Siddiqui, Stephen Shih, Evan Heints, Allison Bergmann, Sameera Raziuddin, Morgan Midkiff, Karina Chavez (second row) Gabriela Corneo, Katherine Pack, Nate Eagan, Rachael Nelson, Brittney Bermingham, Holly Patton, Lori Hoffmann, Stephanie Kerchert (third row) Chelsea Aidinovich, Nicole Perez, Brad Armor, Adam Stepanovic, Kristin Augustyne, Kaitlyn Hobbs, Paige Kyrnash (back row) Jim Nolan, Shailee Kumar, Amber Callahan, Max Kilbarda, Erica Keeler, Jonathan Wachala, Aaditya Shah, Santhosh Narayan



**Spanish Club** (front row) Ximena Fernandez, Lauren Pazik, Maritza Carlos, Vickie Montejano, Rachel Ceja, Hannah Kurowski, Karina Fensica (second row) Michael Caselton, Rachael Trevino, Breck Scaravack, Julianne Donahue, Kristina Keith, Brittany Zehner, Ele Chakraborty, Taylor Hodges (third row) Phoebe Conner, Emily Becher, Rachael Heinger, Stevie Wierman, Grace Ispas, Madison Gallegos, Claudia Portillo (back row) Renee Miyashiro, Ellen Crilly, Lauren McGill, Allison DeGeorge, Mythili Chintamani, Steph Baker, Elisabeth Klisner, Sarah Sikora



# Making

the most of it

“When I work at theater, I have to be professional, but I can also be myself at the same time. I was also with my friends, which made everything even better.”

“I gained a lot of friendships in Spanish Club. It was a lot of fun to be a part of something where I could learn the culture and have fun at the same time.”

Spanish Club member  
**Jon Newcomb**, freshman

“I’ve been in band since 4th grade.

When I came into it as a freshman, I came into the high school knowing a lot of people, and I got to know a lot of new people too. I gained a lot of musical experience by playing awesome songs and I like that.”

Marching Band member  
**Kim Hajdudh**, junior

Theater Technical Assistant  
**Mike Phillips**, junior



**Spanish Club** (front row) Emilie Riggs, Amber Maldonado, Sarah Cluserath, Katie Taylor, Kristin Harker, Jenni Dedelow, Nina Ogrizovich (second row) Haley Barfoot, Mursal Rastid, Ayat Muslen, Julie Puvoget, Jenny Deecken, Andrea Dell'Aquila, Zach Tritsch, Kristi Roser (third row) Yena Choi, Christina Pasyk, Isabella Ramierz, Aesha Mariz, Kara McShane, Nicole Montella, Michael Storino (back row) Megha Kumar, Tara Mojtahed, Shivani Patel, Reema Shah, Sophia Raziuddin, Kavita Dedania, Michelle Chung, Chandani Bhatt



**Spanish Club** (front row) Elana Schwartz, Christine Lissy, Michael Dovellos, Alexis Ginn, Gina Karabatak, Jenna Cui, Andrew Koulourides, David Trykall (second row) Arika Jeter, Brianna Solola, Jackie Alvarado, Nikita Kanak, Jack Ceballos, Vanessa Chavez, Tyler Germai, Kristina Traxler (third row) Amy Vogel, Ben Gonzalez, Lauren Johnson, Luis Westerfield, Emily Saucedo, Natalia Fernandez de Cordova, Aubrey Reno, Ariel Callahan (back row) Kate Novak, Nitip Kaur, Bridget McCullough, Shannon Shreibak, Samantha Adler, Kori Kirby, Corney Cowry, Bianca Cordova

## Student Government

Active members:

36

### Sponsors:

Miss Twila Marsh,

Miss Kylene Eden

### Officers:

President

Matt Thompson

Vice President

Eric Anderson

Secretary

Kim Long

### Accomplishment:

Raised more than

\$4,000 for Riley's

Children's Hospital

from Battle of the

Bands



**Student Government** (front row) Autumn Gonzalez, Danny Alexander, Nina Ogrizovich, Jelena Grozdanich, Alexander Doctor, Elizabeth Wadas, Shaile Kumar, Andrew Koulourides (second row) Timothy Yee, Olivia Koulos, Kim Long, Leah Brousalis, Vanessa Cordova, Jessica Biesek, Lainey Williams, Patrick Raycroft (third row) Paige Opinkier, Tess Edvardson, Megan McKechnie, Matt Thompson, James Burgwald, Erick Ferrer, Kristen Slaboski (back row) Lazarick Whitlock, Tessa Toyama, Federico Olasebikan, Nicholas Stoffregen, Ben Varnum, Eric Anderson, Grant Williams, Dillon Thompson



**Thespians** (front row) Kathryn Krull, Tony Campana, Kim Long, Kassia Grozowski, Katherine Bobek, Elyse Estes, Brian Lewis (second row) David Kiesling, Jacob Cherogan, Clarke Remmers, Justin Mulesa, Kenn O'Drobinak, Doug Johnson, Andrew Frye (back row) Hunter Muckel, Melissa Lee, Mark Knight, Adam Goodwin, Adam Bobeck, Nicholas Van Wieren, Janelle Boudreau, Danielle Cacich



**Thespians** (front row) Laura Aguilar, Allison Newman, Kurt Popovich, Bethany Borgo, Kai Melder (second row) David Blumberg, Stephanie Sepiol, Kathryn Wadas, Mallory McShane, Julianne Watterson (third row) Jenny Eskander, Kellie Nadratowski, Katie Palmer, Nicole Raynor, Sarah Roque, Hannah Kuroski (back row) Olivia Yates, Katie Anderson, Morgan Midkiff, Lyndsey Hernandez, Madolyn Hedin, Jelen Grodzanich, Britney Breyer

#### Thespians Active members:

Sponsor: Mr. Larry A. Brechner  
**Highlight Activity:** Having students reach the top honors in Munster Theater Company

## Worth

### the effort Academic Teams

Junior Engineering Technical Society (JETS) varsity finished 2nd at State and 12th in the nation, while Science Olympiad took 5th at State

### Crier and Paragon

staff members traveled to Philadelphia, PA for the fall national convention where the yearbook finished 2nd in Best of Show, and the newspaper finished 4th. Both publications earned Superior rankings and Hoosier Star Finalist nominations, along with 14 state honors from Ball State J Day. Crier writers also earned two Quill and Scroll Gold Keys and a Women's Press Club State Championship in sportswriting

### Marching Band

qualified for State after placing in the Top 16 at ISSMA qualifying competition. The group traveled to Hawaii over Spring Break where they performed at Pearl Harbor

### DECA

won State as they qualified 29 students for the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, GA. They returned with two International Champs and more Top 10 finishers than any other school at the conference

### Project X

raised \$2,500 in their Pennies for Patients fundraiser for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

### Speech and Debate

qualified nine individuals for Nationals in Las Vegas in June. Speech finished 2nd at State and Debate finished 3rd, bringing home three State Champs

### Student Government

raised more than \$4,000 for Riley's Childrens Hospital in Indianapolis from Battle of the Bands profits. They also cleared 91 units of blood in their annual April Blood Drive for the Chicagoland Red Cross

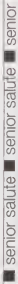
“After going to Nationals, the best thing was winning. [Winning] was fun and it felt like our hard work paid off in the end. It was even better to win with your friends right there with you.”

”  
DECA National Qualifier  
**Nikhil Bhagwat**, sophomore

Congratulations, we couldn't be more proud of you. Your best years are yet to come. Good Luck at Ferris State.

Love,  
Mom, Dad,  
Stephanie,  
Kristin, & Nicholas

GO BULLDOGS



Wishing you a life of good fortune and good health!!

"May you live as long as you want, and never want as long as you live!"

We Love You,  
Mom, Dad, Eric and  
Alex

■ senior salute ■ senior salute ■ senior salute ■ senior salute ■ senior

Look forward, continue to grow. As long as you live you have a future. Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars. Congratulations and Good Luck at Valparaiso University. We are very proud of you and love you very much.

Love,  
Dad, Mom and Joel



## senior salute ■ senior salute ■ senior ■ senior

We are very proud of your accomplishments and the focused young man that you have become. We are sure that you will continue with the good work during your college years, and will continue to make us proud. Do not give up on your dreams.. The best is yet to come.. and you can count on us to always be there for you.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Chris

[illegible]

Moving forward  
with our love and  
support.  
Good luck Sarah!!!

Love,  
Mom, Dad,  
Tony and Rocky

## stefan coric



You have been such a blessing to us, as we have watched you grow. We are very proud of the man you have become and we look forward to sharing the next chapter of your life. Keep smiling and always remember that we love you unconditionally.

Mama, Tata, Aleksandra and Zarko

## How did rising gas prices affect your driving?

“I rode my bike to closer places. I lived in Cobblestones and instead of driving to White Oak Park I biked or I ran. It was like \$60 to fill my tank.”

Oscar Cisneros,  
senior

“It made me poorer and put a damper on my shopping habit, but I still had to drive all the places I did before. It just cost more so I had to cut back in other places.”

Alisa Bochnowski,  
sophomore

“I tried driving less and I didn't go out as much. I often tried to mooch off of other peoples' cars.”

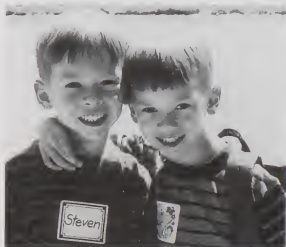
Ben Taylor,  
junior

## steve & nick markovich

From the first day of kindergarten to the last day of high school, we couldn't be more PROUD Having sons like BOTH of YOU!!!

Congratulations on all your accomplishments!

Love,  
Mom & Dad





## ted hanak

You are not just our son, but our first miracle. Loving, kind, considerate and unique. Our lives have been blessed in kind. Realize your dreams.

Love,  
Mom and Dad

## roberto rumbolo

ROBERTO, YOU MADE IT! Congratulations on your High School graduation. We are very proud of you and love you not only for your achievements but for who you are. We wish you the very best and may the Lord Almighty guide you through your college years.

BRAVISSIMO,  
Ti Vogliamo Tanto Tanto Bene.  
Mamma et Papa



## chris witter



Congratulations on an outstanding High School career. We're so very proud of you!

Love,  
Mom, Dad and  
Chloe

## mitch larock

From Kindergarten Graduation to your High School Graduation, Where has the time gone? We have enjoyed every second, and we are proud to have seen you grow into the man you are today! CONGRATULATIONS

Love,  
Mom, Daddy Nick  
and Alexa  
Go Pumas!



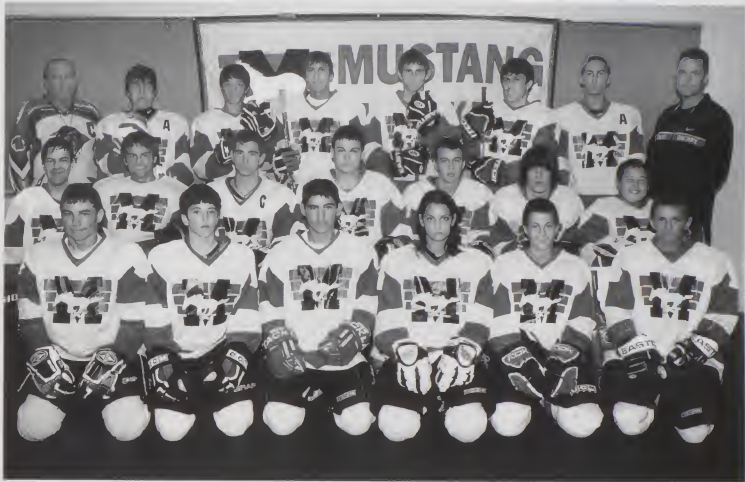
## clarissa gosciej

Your gentle and sweet spirit is only a part of the remarkable and talented young woman you are. You have a kind and encouraging heart, bringing joy to all who know you. We are proud of who you are and are excited over the wonderful adventures awaiting you. Pursue your passions with prayer and a zest for life. Dream big and keep dancing.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Rachel



## mustang hockey organization



**Mustang Hockey** Front row: Tommy Merkelis, Mitch Lyness, Matt LaRouche, Jordan Eustace, Tony Rubino, Zach Adams. Second row: Nate Roney, Phil Bernardi, Steve Adams, Brian Good, Josh Yokovich, Drew Kerber, Zack Piefer. Back row: Head Coach Rick Rubino, Brian O'Hara, Nik Mileusnic, Justin Smit, Chad Van Deursen, Kyle Wargo, Joshua Smit, Assistant Coach Bob DeGard.

## senior hockey mustangs



Steve Adams



Phil Bernardi



Jordan Eustace



Brian Good



Joshua Smit

## stephanie lemus



A daughter...

"Thinking about the girl she was makes you feel a little sentimental. Thinking about the woman she's become makes you feel more than a little proud."

Congratulations, Steph. We will always be proud of you and all that you've accomplished.

Love,  
Mom, Dad and Matt

## debbie wilczynski



My little Deborah Doo,

No one could be prouder of the young woman you have become. I love you more than anything.

Mom

## buddy becher

Buddy,

For All You Are,  
For All You Have Been,  
For All You Will Become,  
We Love You.

Go Confidently to Your Dreams at IU.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Emily and Ben



## julianne donahue

Dearest Julianne,

God truly smiled upon this family when he blessed us with you. You have brought love and inspiration to everyone you have touched. Enjoy the adventure that will be your college years.

Love,  
Mom, Ken, Kevin and Roxy

## miles krasic



Dear Miles,  
From a very young age you were ready to conquer the world! We love you for who you are and the wonderful young man you have grown up to be! Best Wishes on your college years.

Love,  
Mom, Tata and Stefi

## phil bernardi

Congratulations on your graduation from high school. We are proud of what you have accomplished so far, and look for much more as you go onto college. You have grown up before our eyes and are a wonderful son, brother, grandson, cousin, and friend to many.

Love,  
Dad, Mom and Rebecca



## meagan yothment



"Believe in what your heart is saying, hear the melody that's playing.... You have everything you need, If you just believe."

Congratulations Meagan!!!  
Wishing you every success in college and beyond.

We love you and  
couldn't be prouder!  
Mom, Dad, and Chris

How  
did you  
change  
your  
boring  
nights?

"I would go to Target and try on a bunch of random clothing."

Breanne Lauler,  
*senior*

"I would play games, go to a friend's house, watch TV or play video games. Video games were fun and perfect to fill the void because I could stop and pick them up whenever I want."

Vivek Dasari,  
*sophomore*

"I would have a movie night with my friends. We would catch up on movies we haven't seen and we would just eat a bunch of popcorn and other goodies. We would just make the best of it."

Erin Hott,  
*junior*



## billy hasse



We are so proud of the person you are, the choices you have made, and the many accomplishments that you have achieved. Wishing you a bright and happy future! Good luck at Purdue!

We love you,  
Dad, Mom and Kimmi



## jennifer romano

Jennifer,  
Take time to enjoy while preparing for tomorrow. You are now in charge of your life, be fair, kind and honest and you will succeed. Your future is there for the taking make the most of it. We love you and are proud of you. You will always be our little girl.

Love,  
Mom and Dad



## kaitlin hines



Dear Kaitlin,  
Our wish for you is that your life becomes all that you want it to. May your dreams stay big and your worries stay small and may your faith give you the courage to do great things. Our love has given you the roots to find your wings, and now it's time for you to fly. We'll be cheering you on as we watch you soar. And just remember... someone loves you... and it's us!

Love,  
Mom, Dad and Kristen

## kathryn wadas

All of your talents overflow into everything you do. The world is brighter because of you. Your character, work, ethic, morals, and confidence influence and inspire others. You are a precious gift. We love you. Boiler up!

Mom, Dad, John,  
Elizabeth and Michael



## belinda sebenste

Lindy,  
You are so treasured for all that you are. Keep dreaming big and follow through, "to infinity and beyond." Enjoy every moment.

Love,  
Mom and Dad

## kyle boyd

Kyle, we are so proud of what you have accomplished. Congratulations and good luck at Purdue Lafayette. Work hard to make your dreams come true. We love you.

Love,  
Dad, Mom and Morgan



## matt thompson

Matt, Congratulations! You've had a great and successful 4 years at Munster High School. We look forward to seeing you continue another great 4 years at New York University. We are Very Proud of you.

Love Always,  
Mom, Dad, Dustin,  
Brandon, Dillon and  
Maxi

## anna guanzone

Congratulations!

We know you will have more "fruits" in your hands in the years to come.

All our love  
and best wishes,  
Dad, Mom, Matt  
and Christina



## Where did you find the best job?

“Long John Silvers because of the unity of the employees. I hung out with them 24/7. The only time I was not with them was when I was in school. We had a lot in common since we worked in the same place.”

Sam Smith,  
*junior*

“I worked at a car wash. I liked it because I got paid a lot to do nothing. I don't work there anymore, though, because they don't have enough hours after awhile.”

John Merritt,  
*junior*

“At L.A. Tan because I liked the people and the atmosphere.”

Jenna Brakulis,  
*senior*

“Olympia Fields golf course... I got to be outside and make a lot of money.”

John Merritt,  
*junior*

### megan mckechnie



Oh the places you'll go!  
You'll be on your way up  
You'll be seeing great sights  
You'll join the high fliers  
Who soar to high heights.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Mark, and  
Michael

BOILER UP!!

### john carlson

Congratulations!  
We are proud  
of you!

Love,  
Us

### patrick howard

“The childhood shows  
the man”...  
You can be proud of  
your accomplishments  
and the person you have  
become. We are.  
Enjoy college!

Love,  
Mom, Dad and  
George

### julie zivich

Dear Julie,  
Watching you grow  
into an amazing young  
woman has been the trip  
of a lifetime. You are our  
shining star and we are so  
proud of you!

Love,  
Mom, Jenn and  
Amanda



## nicholas james stoffregen

Oh, the places you'll go!  
With your head full of brains  
And your shoes full of feet,  
You bright, promising future  
Is sure hard to beat!

We'll love you forever  
We'll like you for always...  
Mom, Dad, Mike & Gina



## Class of 2008

Wishing you  
continued  
success  
in all you do!

## 2008 orchestra seniors



### Senior Orchestra Members

*Front Row:* Lovelyn-Kay Pastrana, Sarah Mihich, Mary Webber, Julie Hawkins, Pooja Khatiwada *Second Row:* Nick Yi, Tyler Drabenstot, Ariana Rodriguez, Angela Hehn, Andrew Johnson, Jennifer Peng

*Not pictured:* Adam Cooper, Erin McIntyre

Thank you for your talent and leadership. We couldn't have done it without you!

From  
The Munster Orchestra Parents

## lovelyn pastrana



Abby  
Congratulations

All the best on your  
college years.  
The future is yours  
to dream and  
succeed.

Love,  
Dad, Mom,  
Jason, Bethany  
and Ryanna



## bryan sanders

Congratulations,  
Bryan!

We are proud  
of you.  
Always keep your  
kind heart and  
believe  
in yourself.

Love,  
Mom and Dad



## jacob gerber

It's your time... and you have come  
a long way... from sticking crayons  
up your nose in the third grade for  
a laugh to graduate high school.  
It hasn't been an easy journey...  
from California to Atlanta, back to  
California to Kansas City and finally  
to Munster and never complained.  
You make us very proud and  
excited for your next move.

We love you,  
Dad, Momma "T",  
Maggie and JC



## ashley arens



We are so proud of you.  
Follow your heart and live  
your dreams. May joy and  
success be yours always.

Congratulations!

Love you forever,  
Mom and Jessica

## bailey remec

Bailey,  
You have grown up  
to be a beautiful,  
special young lady.  
Congratulations on all of  
your accomplishments.  
Boiler Up!

Love,  
Dad, Mom, Megan  
and all of the "pets"



## blake platt

### BALTIMORE BOUND



**Congratulations Blake!**

Life is a marathon, not a sprint...  
You're running an awesome race!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Brandon,  
Brooks and Ozzie

## alexandra hora

Alex,  
You have always been  
a very determined  
passionate young lady.  
Use these attributes  
as stepping stones to  
capture your future. We  
are proud of you!

Love,  
Mom, Dad and  
Brendan



## mittchell shlensky

Mitchell,  
Way to go  
-we never had any doubt  
-it's the first step on a  
journey that will lead to  
success.

All our love,  
Mom, Dad and  
Julia

## amanda hoffman

Life can be a bit scary!  
But you have handled all  
its ups and downs with  
wisdom, faith, and a loving  
heart. We know you are  
ready!

Our love and pride are  
with you always,  
Mom, Dad, Steph,  
David and Corbin



## ashley marie lair

Congratulations!  
We're so very proud  
of you! May you enjoy  
your journey to IU.  
Remember to follow your  
heart and reach for the  
stars! We love you!

Love always,  
Mom and Dad



## brittani vasquez

You've really lived up  
to the words Pa once  
said when you were so  
little, "she's going to be  
a leader, not a follower."  
Always remember who  
you are! We're so proud  
of you.

Love,  
Mom, Dude, Da,  
Nanny and Pa

## julie hawkins

Congratulations!  
We're so proud of  
you.  
We wish you  
happiness and  
success at Carthage.  
The future is yours.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Kim,  
and Domino

## marching mustangs



### Seniors 2008

Marching Mustangs

Wind Ensemble

Symphonic Band

You have been changed FOR GOOD! ❖ Wicked ❖

**Congratulations and Aloha!**

Munster Band Backers

**Marching Mustangs Seniors:** Jovan Andjelich, Michelle Ballard, Philipo Bernardi, Mitch Bruhn, Marc Campos, Melissa Ceppo, Valeria Carillo, Dan Carr, Tyler Drabenstot, Abby Farkas, Robert Gorman, Kassia Groszewski, Stephanie Handlon, Julie Janis, Kara Korem, Caleb Kurowski, Sara Larsen, Love-lyn Pastrana, Molly Poczontek, Kelly Rausch, Anisha Rastogi, Suchita Rastogi, Brandon Schweitzer, Leann Sikora, Kathryn Wadas, Meagan Yohtment, Color Guard Kelsey Ellingsen



## michelle philipsborn

Michelle,  
I'll love you forever,  
I'll like you for  
always, As long as  
I'm living, my baby  
you'll be.

Love,  
Mom and Dad

## lazarick whitlock

Before you were conceived  
We wanted you  
Before you were born  
We loved you  
Before you were here an  
hour  
We would die for you  
This is the miracle of life...

Love,  
Mom and Dad



## michael becka



Congratulations, Mike!

Best wishes as you  
continue your education  
in Professional Flight  
at Purdue.  
Boiler Up!

Love,  
Mom, Dad and  
Michelle

## alyssa spungen

From the day the doctor said  
"It's a girl" to watching you  
attend your last prom... we are  
so proud of the beautiful, strong  
and independent woman you've  
become. We are thrilled you have  
chosen University of Arizona, so  
you will not be too far from us.  
Continued success, health and  
happiness always.

Love,  
Mom and Dad



Where  
did you  
spend  
your?  
free time?

"My friend's house in Crown  
Point because all of my friends  
lived close by so we were  
able to get together more.  
The house had everything we  
needed: a pool table, football  
table, video games and a ping  
pong machine."

Nick Brown,  
*sophomore*

"I liked to go to Dunkin Donuts  
because they're open late.  
Donuts are my favorite food.  
The food there is a reasonably  
priced and I love the bright  
bathrooms. It was a fun and  
easy place to hang out with my  
boyfriend Austin and our friends."

Stacy Krahn,  
*freshman*

"Jamba Juice with my friends  
because it was a very chill spot  
with delicious juices and a nice  
calm environment to relax."

Austin Wynn,  
*junior*



## **gabe harangody**

Gabe,  
Thanks for the many good  
times! May you continue  
to fill lives with love and  
laughter.

Mom, Dad, Pete  
and all the  
Harangody's



## **kristen pagane**

We are so proud of you and  
all of your accomplishments.  
Continue to grow and develop  
into the beautiful person we  
know and love.  
Remember- Set your goals  
high and never stop believing  
in yourself. You can achieve  
anything you want with hard  
work, desire and dedication.

Love always,  
Mom, Dad and Jenna



## **kristina keith**

Congratulations!  
You did it in just four short years!  
You've grown from a little girl  
hugging Jordan to a beautiful  
young woman ready to take on the  
world. We are very proud of you  
and all your accomplishments now  
and in the future. You future is as  
bright as you are.

Love,  
Mom, Dad and Kayla



## **risa hurwich**

Risa, you are a dependable  
ray of sunshine in our lives.  
We are so proud of you. We  
wish you continued success  
and happiness in college  
and always. We are bursting  
with pride and love.

Mom, Dad,  
Allie and David



## **daniel creagh**

We are so proud of you  
and know that you will  
succeed in whatever you  
choose to do in life. You  
will always have our love  
and support.  
Congratulations!

Love,  
Mom and Dad

BOILER UP!

## ashley lair and friends



**Congrats Class of 2008!**  
**We wish you the best of luck!**

Mama T and Frank

## ted hack

Hope your dreams  
are coming true.  
We are so proud of  
you, and look out  
art world.

Love,  
Mom, Dad  
and Ashley

## felipe hernandez

You've waited for this  
day to move on. We  
wish you all the best in  
culinary school. Work  
hard and be happy.  
Happy Cooking!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Justin  
and Anneliese

## 2008 seniors

Since your  
freshman year in  
2004 until your  
graduation day  
in 2008, you  
have made us so  
proud.  
Good Luck

## milana grozdanich

Mimi:  
We are proud of the young  
lady you have become. You've  
worked hard and finished  
high school with some great  
options. Don't settle for the  
ordinary... aim higher. We wish  
you health, happiness and  
success at USC. Have fun in  
the California sun.

Always remember we  
love you,  
Mom, Tati and Jelena



## Where did you spend the most money?

“Gas stations... the rising gas prices were killing me. I could barely buy anything else.”

Shawn Michel,  
*junior*

“Taco Bell... I would go there every day and spend \$5-\$10 on tacos, hard-shell without lettuce.”

Mike Resler,  
*freshman*

“At the movies... I went about twice a week and bought popcorn and stuff.”

Marco Sretenovic,  
*senior*

“Hollister...because it was so expensive, but I loved the clothes there.”

GiGi Chioros,  
*freshman*

## pero ogrizovich

Dear Pero,

Everywhere you journey in life, you will go our love by your side. We hope and pray...

- that the world will treat you fairly,
- that a wealth of opportunities will come your way,
- that life will be very generous in giving you all the happiness and success you deserve,
- and that you will be safe and smart and sure to make good choices on your journey through life.

Our little boy has grown up to be a wonderful and caring young man. We're so very proud of you!

We love you very much!  
Tata, Mama and Nina



## brian schmidt

Our wish for you is to be loving, independent, productive and moral. Good luck at Valpo!

Love,  
Mom and Dad  
Jeff and Nanie

## jacob biscan

Congratulations Jake! You've worked hard and played hard. We are so proud of the young man you have become and know that you have many great things ahead of you at IU.... and much more to offer in the future.

Love,  
Mom and Dad, Katie  
and Marc, Matt, Liz,  
Danny, Mikey and Molly

# Morfas Family Dentistry

**Chris J. Morfas, DDS**  
1001 Main St., Suite 2W  
Dyer, IN 46311  
322-9905



*Morfas Family Dentistry*



**CHRIS J. MORFAS, D.D.S.**  
**JOHN C. MORFAS, D.D.S.**  
*and Associates*

**322-9905**



**all in the family**

Proud of the family name and business, Nick Morfas, junior, welcomes new patients and old to his father's dentistry practise. Dr. Morfas, a Munster alum, supports all Mustang activities.



more than meets the eye

Where  
was the  
best  
movie?  
you saw?

“Narnia Prince Caspian at Showplace 16... it was an epic in its battle scenes and the New Zealand landscape was breath taking.”

Megan Mann,  
*senior*

“Forbidden Kingdom because of all the action. Jackie Chan was awesome in it. It had a good moral to live your dream.”

Curtis Spencer,  
*junior*

“Juno because it was different and made me laugh. They took something that could be terrible (teen pregnancy) and made it positive.”

Yena Choi,  
*sophomore*

## **crowel agency, inc**



### **in good hands**

Taking a break from their end-of-the-year deadlines, Crier and Paragon staff members (front) Sonia Grabowski, Kai Melder, Christina Avgerinos, Gail Oesterle and Dudley Paquette, and (second row) Anne Perz, Taylor Hubbard, Anna Guanzon, Marry Baggett, Kyle Boyd, Zach Bucholtz, and photographer Sarah Roberts visit Crowel Agency in Highland. For all your insurance needs, visit Crowel.

**Crowel Agency, Inc**  
8244 Kennedy Ave.  
Highland, IN 46322  
923-2131



## **class of 2008**

**Good Luck**  
to the **Class of 2008**

Best wishes for continued success

senior salute ■ senior salute ■ senior salute

## community patrons

### *...backing the efforts of Munster High School*

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	Drs. Sanjeev & Amita Rastogi	

## more than a name

### A

Abraham, Ryanne 76, 129  
 Abu-Aita, Joe 11, 59, 112, 113, 115  
 Academic Team 67, 68, 70, 71, 72, 73, 75, 102, 170  
 Acevez, Mrs. Juliann 10, 103, 177  
 Acosta, Mrs. Darlene 175, 176  
 Adams, Luke 92, 114  
 Adams, Michael 76, 142, 172  
 Adams, Stephen 59, 183  
 Adcock, Alyssa 76, 126, 127  
 Adler, Samantha 92, 170, 171, 172, 173, 176, 178  
 Aerts, Casey 76  
 Aerts, Kyle 92  
 Agelopoulos, Eleni 84, 92, 120, 173  
 Aguilar, Jose 42, 76  
 Aguilar, Laura 4, 36, 84, 170, 173, 179  
 Aguirre, Alexandra 84  
 Aidinovich, Chelsea 92, 127, 177  
 Akay, Keaton 59, 172  
 Alanis, Guadalupe 76  
 Albano, Melanie 92  
 Alberson, Kurt 84, 175, 176  
 Alexander, Ashley 84  
 Alexander, Danny 59, 122, 174, 175  
 Alexander, Tieg 59, 174  
 Alexander, Trevor 59, 175  
 Alfonsi, Marcus 76, 119  
 Allen, Larry 84, 113, 115  
 Almaguer, Patricia 92  
 Almay, Elizabeth 92  
 Ali, Vincent 84, 86  
 Altigibers, Sara 84  
 Alvarez, Jackie 84, 172, 178  
 Alvarez, Jeffrey 92  
 Alvarez, Jonathan 92, 176, 177  
 Alvarez, Valerie 59, 140  
 Alvarez, Victor 92  
 Ambrosini, Myles 84  
 Ambury, Sara 76, 170, 175  
 Amby, William 92  
 American Sign Language 10, 102, 105  
 Anderson, Brandon 38, 76, 171  
 Anderson, Bria 84, 172  
 Anderson, Colleen 76, 140  
 Anderson, Eric 59, 138, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178  
 Anderson, Hannah 33, 76, 170, 173  
 Anderson, Katie 59, 172, 173, 174, 179  
 Andjelich, Jovan 59, 109, 174, 176  
 Andreato, Katherine 84, 172, 176  
 Andrews, Billy 84, 113  
 Andrews, Carolyn 16, 29, 59  
 Anello, Nick 39, 59  
 Anjelich, Jovan 172  
 AP English Literature 7  
 AP Psychology 10,

27, 30

Aponte, Jeremy 59  
 Arenas, Ashley 43, 59, 170, 190, 208  
 Argenta, Mr. Jacob 11, 100, 131, 132  
 Armour, Brad 84, 119, 177  
 Arnold, Ambur 92  
 Arnold, Judy 92, 177  
 Art Club 101, 170  
 Arteaga, Fabian 76  
 Artus, Daniel 92  
 Askew, Shaikya 92  
 AST Club 102, 170  
 Athletic Trainer 69  
 Auditorium Staff 72, 170  
 Augustine, Kristin 92, 170, 177  
 Ault, Adrienne 92, 170, 173  
 Ayverinos, Christina 76, 174, 176, 177  
 Avina, Celeste 20, 56, 76  
 Avina, Jesus 59  
 Avigis, Stacy 92, 110, 172  
 Ayersman, Anthony 27, 76, 107

### B

Bacha, Catherine 84  
 Bacha, Zachery 92  
 Bachert, Kayla 84, 173  
 Backs, Mr. Matt 113, 114  
 Baccayanis, Karl 84  
 Baggett, Mary 59, 171, 172, 174  
 Baggett, Michael 92, 177  
 Baker, Phil 25, 76  
 Baker, Sara 92  
 Baker, Steph 76, 177  
 Bakker, Justice 59  
 Balasina, Ben 84, 113  
 Ballanco, Kerian 59, 173, 175  
 Ballard, Michelle 59  
 Banasack, Jessica 92  
 Band, Marching 178, 192  
 Band, Pep 104  
 Bandura, Corey 76, 138, 139  
 Banks, Katie 76, 172  
 Barfoot, Haley 84, 86, 178  
 Barriere, Zach 92, 114  
 Barnes, Jessa 16, 170  
 Barrows, David 92  
 Barsic, Matthew 92  
 Barth, Adam 92, 173  
 Barth, Eric 76, 173, 176  
 Bartlett, Dr. Timothy 100, 172  
 Bartolomeo, Tony 113  
 Baseball 144, 145  
 Basile, Justin 59  
 Basile, Paige 92  
 Basketball Boys' 130, 131, 132, 133  
 Basketball Girls' 134, 135, 136, 137  
 Bassetto, Tommy 59, 138, 172, 174  
 Bateman, Jacob 92  
 Bateman, Robert 76  
 Battle of the Bands 52, 53  
 Batazo, Alexandro 40, 59, 177  
 Bajan, Dan 38, 84

Beary, Melissa 92, 175  
 Beatty, Steve 59, 113  
 Beavers, Rachel 92  
 Becher, Edwin 7, 59  
 Boston, 172, 174, 184  
 Becher, Emily 84, 177  
 Becka, Mike 8, 59, 176, 193  
 Bednarowski, Michael 92, 176  
 Behrens, Kevin 92, 138, 139  
 Behrens, Pat 59, 122, 123  
 Belkairous, Adam 59, 138, 172  
 Belkairous, Joey 84, 138, 172  
 Bell, Morgan 84  
 Benman, Amina 10, 38, 59, 140, 141, 172, 173  
 Benman, Mary 37, 84, 140  
 Benseley, Alexander 92  
 Berg Justin 76  
 Bergmann, Allison 36, 76, 140, 176, 177  
 Bergman, Robert 84  
 Bermingham, Brittaney 92, 127, 177  
 Bernard, Philip 59, 106, 183, 185  
 Bernard, Rebecca 92, 129, 175  
 Bertagnoli, Brett 45, 59, 113, 174  
 Bhagwat, Nikhil 84, 122, 176  
 Bhatt, Chandani 92, 172, 178, 179  
 Bialas, Miss Megan 24, 26, 100, 103, 177  
 Biesack, Jessica 76, 175, 177, 178  
 Billy, Despire 15  
 Birmingham, Brittaney 96  
 Biscan, Jacob 60, 196  
 Bisoulis, Helen 92, 172  
 Bissonette, Tony 19, 52, 53, 76  
 Biskazas, Alyssa 92  
 Blackstone, Zach 84  
 Blanchard, Alexandra 84, 127  
 Blatsirois, Alyssa 84, 172  
 Blazevich, Lauren 60, 170  
 Blumberg, David 36, 51, 84, 170, 172, 173, 179  
 Bobbey, Ricky 143  
 Bobick, Adam 17, 39, 46, 49, 76, 170, 172, 173, 176, 179  
 Bobick, Josh 92, 170, 173  
 Bobek, Katherine 4, 34, 84, 170, 173, 176, 179  
 Bobos, Sarah 42, 93  
 Bodachowski, Alisa 47, 84, 181, 206  
 Bodnowski, John 84, 113, 171  
 Boelt, Clint 84, 142  
 Boender, Brittaney 76  
 Bogs, Drew 84  
 Bokanowski, Carli 76, 171, 174  
 Bonessa, Christopher 84  
 Bonessa, Joseph 84  
 Bonessa, Samantha 60, 180  
 Bonini, Cristina 84  
 Bonini, Matthew 60  
 Bonke, Megan 60, 75  
 Booker, Jasmine 76

Bookwood, Alicia 39, 84  
 Borgo, Bethany 84, 170, 172, 173, 175, 179  
 Borowicz, Edyta 76, 173  
 Boston, Ellie 32, 84  
 Boswell, Christina 33, 170, 171, 173, 179  
 Boswell, Jan 28, 76, 113, 115  
 Botton, Jordana 29, 60, 170  
 Boudreau, Janelle 48, 76, 170, 171, 173, 179  
 Bowen, Bernadette 18, 23, 60, 66, 75, 176  
 Boyan, Heather 93, 125, 172, 175, 176  
 Boys' Basketball 130, 131, 132, 133  
 Boys' Cross Country 108, 109  
 Boys' Golf 148, 149  
 Boys' Soccer 138, 139  
 Boys' Swimming 108, 109  
 Boys' Tennis 122, 123  
 Boys' Track 152, 153  
 Boyan, Matt 76, 172  
 Boyd, Brittaney 84  
 Boyd, Kyle 60, 171, 174, 187  
 Boyle, Colleen 84, 175, 176  
 Boyle, Dan 60, 138  
 Bozich, Nick 28, 76  
 Bozich, Trevor 60  
 Bozovic, Tatiana 60  
 Bradic, Allen 23  
 Bradley, Co-Juan 84  
 Bradley, Ja-Dan 93, 172  
 Bragg, Brandon 32, 84, 142  
 Bragiel, Jeff 12, 60  
 Brakaj, Alex 60, 112, 113, 115, 180  
 Brakaj, Kristin 84, 125, 134, 135, 137  
 Brakulis, Jenna 43, 60, 170, 188  
 Brandon, Kaylee 93, 170, 173  
 Brazzale, Cassandra 93  
 Brechner, Mr. Larry 49, 100, 170, 173, 179  
 Breger, Britney 26, 48, 76, 170, 173, 175, 177, 179  
 Brian, Taylor 7, 56, 60, 126, 127  
 Brien, Angelica 80  
 Briette, Michael 93, 172  
 Broadnax, Garrett 27, 176, 132, 177  
 Brodsky, Josh 93, 171, 176  
 Brokop, Abbey 76, 125, 172  
 Brousalis, Leah 43, 76, 120, 121, 178  
 Brozovic, Coach Aaron 108, 109  
 Brown, Holly 45, 60  
 Brown, Kyle 93  
 Brown, Nick 76, 109, 138, 172, 193  
 Brown, Sabrina 60, 75  
 Brozowski, Matt 84, 171, 177  
 Bruhn, Mitch 60, 172  
 Brumm, Joel 40, 84, 132  
 Brummet, Meredith 60, 180  
 Bruzan, Cara 41, 76, 170, 172, 175, 176  
 Bubash, Austin 76  
 Bucholtz, Zach 76, 113,

171

Buck, Mrs. Donna 100  
 Bugvis, Stephanie 76  
 Burger, Camille 32, 172  
 Burgwald, James 60, 108, 109, 174, 175  
 Burgwald, Thomas 84, 172, 173, 176  
 Burns, Katherine 76  
 Burton, Ashley 84, 110  
 Bustalino, Thomas 76

### C

Cacich, Danielle 76, 170, 173, 175, 177, 179  
 Cady, Mark 28, 76  
 Calabrese, Mitchell 60  
 Caldwell, Aaron 18, 84, 170, 173  
 Callahan, Amber 93, 127, 177  
 Callahan, Ariel 93, 137, 175, 178  
 Camacho-Munoz, Christopher 84  
 Campagna, Anastazia 93  
 Campagna, Anthony 84  
 Campagna, Stephanie 76  
 Campagna, Tony 46, 47, 86, 173, 179  
 Campbell, Charlene 16, 93  
 Campbell, Justin 76  
 Campbell, Sara 11, 84  
 Campos, Marc 60, 171, 174  
 Campos, Sandra 34, 76  
 Canale, Sara 84  
 Cane, Mariona 43, 93, 170, 172, 175  
 Cantu, Chris 93, 109  
 Cantu, Matthew 84  
 Cap, Mike 84, 138  
 Cap, Sara 76  
 Capiziani, Alyssa 84  
 Cappel, Melissa 60, 174  
 Capriglione, Deirdre 84  
 Carbal, Ricardo 92, 93, 114, 132  
 Carey, Kyle 84, 86, 107  
 Carey, Leah 76  
 Carey, Sean 84, 174  
 Carillo, Val 172  
 Carlos, Maritza 84, 177  
 Carlson, Derek 119, 177  
 Carlson, Emily 93, 170, 173  
 Carlson, John 31, 49, 60, 170, 173, 188  
 Carlson, Kristina Noel 29, 60, 120, 121  
 Carlson, Robert 93, 119  
 Carlson, Shelby 84, 172  
 Carlson, Tim 93, 172  
 Carr, Daniel 60  
 Carrillo, Valerie 60  
 Carroll, Adam 84, 173  
 Carvajal, Fernando 84  
 Carven, Marilee 173  
 Casella, Adam 84, 127, 172, 175, 177  
 Caselton, Michael 84, 177  
 Castell, Tommy 177  
 Castillo-Rivera, Jessica 84, 172  
 Ceballos, Jaquelyn 93, 178  
 CEC, Freshman 171  
 CEC, Junior 57, 171  
 CEC, Senior 171  
 CEC, Sophomore 171

Cecil, Jenna 93, 125, 178  
 Ceja, Antonio 93  
 Ceja, Juan 60  
 Ceja, Rachel 84, 177  
 Ceja, Tony 119  
 Cerven, Marelle 93, 120  
 173, 175, 176  
 Chakroborty, Ee 93, 96, 170, 171, 172, 173  
 Chauhan, Divya 25, 84  
 Chavez, Karina 31, 35, 76, 170, 172, 173, 175, 176, 177  
 Chavez, Vanessa 93, 66  
 Cheerleaders 126, 127  
 Chen, David 8, 84  
 Chen, Emily 84, 140, 172, 177  
 Cheng, Chris 60, 138, 172, 174  
 Chongon, Jacob 85, 120, 173, 179  
 Cherner, James 76, 122, 174  
 Chihara, Alex 93, 170, 172, 173  
 Childs, GW 21, 85  
 Chintamani, Mythili 76, 170, 172, 175, 176, 177  
 Chintamani, Sumanth 93, 172, 176  
 Chiores, Gigi 92, 93, 172, 176  
 Choi, Alex 85, 172  
 Choi, Aileen 93  
 Choi, Yona 85, 172, 175, 176, 178  
 Chovance, Katelyn 60, 172, 176  
 Chowdhury, Arefin 61, 172, 170, 177  
 Chowdhury, Sarah 61, 172, 174, 176  
 Christianson, Taylor 93  
 Christopher, Reahna 85, 177  
 Christopher, Ruth 61, 110, 174, 176, 177  
 Chung, Michelle 32, 93, 172, 175, 176, 178  
 Chung, Chris 93, 95, 122, 172, 174, 176  
 Ciccone, Vincent 76  
 Cipich, Alan 93, 172  
 Cipich, Matthew 76  
 Cisneros, Oscar 61, 181  
 Cisneros, Santana 93  
 Cisneros, Joseph 85  
 Clark, Brie 76, 170  
 Clark, Greg 76, 113  
 Clark, Jess 93, 119  
 Clark, Kyle 93, 114  
 Clark, Mr. Brian 9, 101  
 Cluserath, Sarah 93, 178  
 Clyne, Mr. Kevin 39, 101  
 Coduti, Nicoletta 29, 61, 171, 174  
 Cohen, Alex 43, 45, 61, 172, 176  
 Coil, Mr. Mike 101, 171  
 Colias, Rachel 23, 85, 173  
 Collinsworth, Jennifer 61  
 Collison, Matt 93, 114  
 Compton, Andrew 93  
 Compton, Taylor 16, 32, 42, 76  
 Conger, Haley 49, 93, 170, 171, 173, 175, 176  
 Conger, Lindsey 76  
 Conner, Phoebe 76, 175, 176, 177  
 Cook, Mrs. Jill 174  
 Cooper, Aaron 85, 119,

173, 174  
Cooper, Adam 40, 61,  
118, 119, 170, 171, 172,  
173, 174, 175, 176, 177  
Cooper, Jordan 93, 142  
Cooper, Joshua 76  
Cordova, Bianca 93,  
170, 178  
Cordova, Serafin 93  
Cordova, Vanessa 53,  
76, 175, 176, 177, 178  
Coric, Aleksandra 85  
Coric, Stefan 44, 61, 118,  
119, 181  
Cornojo, Gabriela 76,  
177  
Corradin, Trevor 93  
Coriglia, Kaila 93  
Coriglia, Mike 17, 76  
Costello, Tommy 93, 114  
Covert, Andrew 76  
Covey, Courtney 178  
Cox, Alex 85  
Cribb, Murray 85,  
138  
Crary, Kelsey 93  
Creagh, Daniel 61, 173,  
177  
Cretu, Kristina 62  
Crier, 37, 171  
Crilly, Ellen 85, 125, 177  
Crisman, Joe 93, 132,  
177  
Crisman, John 76  
Cristo, John 93, 114, 132  
Cross Country, Boys'  
108, 109  
Cross Country, Girls'  
110, 111  
Crowder, Kinton 21, 76  
Cruz, Aijana 198  
Crozier, Cheryl 85  
Crozier, Donna 85  
Cuadra, Jessica 62, 110, 174  
Cummings, Sam 85,  
173, 174  
Cundiff, Jake 132  
Cundiff, John 93  
Curme, Mr. Bruce 26,  
28, 31, 40, 100  
Curosh, Kara 85, 134,  
135, 136, 171, 176  
Curosh, Kevin 62  
Curse of the Cobra's Kiss  
48, 173  
Curtis, Samantha 62,  
116, 173, 174  
Cusick, Ryan 76, 172

**D**  
Dade, Travis 85  
Dall'Polo, Kelsey 93  
Damjanovich, Nina 15,  
85, 140  
Damjanovich, Tashi 62,  
140, 141, 171, 174, 176  
Damore, Andrea 76  
Damon, Michael 85  
Dance, Team 67, 68, 72,  
73, 75, 128, 129  
Dancoes 54, 55, 56, 57  
Danckanich, Kaitlin 93  
Das, Debarshi 77  
Dasar, Sidharth 77, 170,  
177  
Dasari, Vivek 85, 122,  
170, 172, 185  
Daugherty, Mrs. Tammy  
7, 38, 101, 177  
Davidson, Coach Jim

116, 117, 134, 135,  
136, 137  
Davis, Brett 93  
Davis, Mr. Gary 101  
DeBarge, Eric 37, 77, 170  
Debate 176  
DeBoer, Jessica 15, 77,  
125  
DECA 171, 172, 179  
DeCero, Eddie 85  
DeCesaris, Caren 93,  
173  
Decker, Ricky 41, 85,  
106  
Dedania, Kavita 85, 170,  
172, 173, 175, 178  
Deedlow, Jeanie 93, 178  
Deedman, Jenny 93, 170,  
176, 178  
DeGeorge, Allison 77,  
173, 177  
DeReal, Crystal 5, 30, 62  
Delgado, Jose 85, 177  
Delgado, Samantha 85  
Dell'Aquila, Andrea 77,  
175, 176, 178  
Della Rocco, Mike 41, 93  
Dempsey, Samantha 62  
DeTrayon, Edward 62  
Devanathan, Daya 77,  
177  
DeYon, Jessica 33, 77  
DiCostanzo, Tony 42,  
77, 131, 133  
Diederich, Cassara 86  
Dillman, Paige 86  
Dillman, Sean 44, 77, 113  
Dillon, Johnny 143  
Dinga, Morgan 93, 175  
Diombala, Mrs. Carrie  
101  
Diving Team 138, 139,  
140, 141  
Djordjevich, Alex 93  
Djuric, Alyssa 54, 86,  
176  
Djuric, Tanya 77, 128,  
129  
Dobis, Katie 8, 13, 86,  
120, 140, 175, 179  
Doctor, Alex 86, 125,  
175, 176, 178  
Doherty, Michael 86,  
113, 171, 176, 177  
Doherty, Mr. John 113,  
131  
Doherty, Pat 62, 113,  
171, 174  
Dohman, Craig 86, 119,  
177  
Dominequez, Jani 93,  
140, 172  
Donahue, Julianne 63,  
177, 184  
Dorn, Anna 86, 125, 174  
Dortch, Darrell 63  
Doshi, Neil 10, 63, 170,  
172, 174  
Dovellos, Michael 86,  
172, 173, 175, 176, 178  
Doyle, Katlyn 86  
Drabenstot, Tyler 63,  
174, 189  
Dremonas, Ariana 77,  
140, 173  
Drillias, Cassandra 77,  
127  
Drobes, Courtney 34,  
177, 134  
Drudge, Andrew 63,  
138, 170  
Drizich, Dustin 93, 172  
Drzich, Mary 86, 110,  
111, 173, 175, 176  
Dubish, James 63  
Dublak, Matthew 86

**E**  
Eagan, Margaret 77  
Eagan, Nate 93, 114,  
132, 177  
Eanes, Samantha 86  
Ebel, Lisa 77  
Ebel, Shawn 93  
Economou, Daniel 93,  
170, 173  
Eden, Ms. Kylene 101,  
177  
Eden, Michael 77  
Edens, Caleb 14, 63  
Edmond, Adrian 77  
Edmond, Anya 93  
Edwards, Tens 77, 175,  
176, 177, 178  
Eldert, Sarah 86, 120  
Ellingsen, Kelsey 41, 63,  
66, 171  
Ellison, Emily 77, 140  
Eloisa, Adrian 77  
Eloisa, Jonathan 63  
Enger, Elodie 86, 137,  
172  
Engle, Mrs. Christina  
101  
Engstrom, Mrs. Helen 177  
Ensembles, Mixed 172  
Ensemble, Women's 172  
Erwin, Mike 86, 142, 143  
Eskander, Jenny 32, 63,  
172, 173, 174, 176, 179  
Espazara, Mariana 86  
Estes, Elise 77, 172, 173,  
176, 179  
Estes, Lorien 77, 173, 177  
Estes, Nick 93, 142  
Estrada, Aaron 5, 77,  
113, 142, 143  
Estrada, Marco 77, 170  
Eustace, Jordan 83  
Evans, Janeé 63, 170

**F**  
Faculty 100-105  
Fagan, Mark 86, 109  
Fagan, Thomas 63  
Fager, Katherine 93  
Fall Musical 49  
Fallon, Danny 93, 114,  
132  
Farell, Matt 177  
Farhadi, Khashayar 38,  
86, 172  
Farkas, Abigail 63  
Farrell, Matthew 86  
Farrell, Mike 119  
Fehlaw, Greg 77, 170, 171  
Fehring, Matt 93, 177  
Fekel, Coach John 120  
Felizak, Jeffrey 77  
Fenescia, Karina 177  
Fernandez de Cordova,  
Natalia 92, 93, 178  
Fernandez de Cordova,  
Yolana 86, 140, 172,  
173, 176, 177

Ferr, Erick 11, 45, 53,  
77, 119, 177, 178  
Field, Mrs. Carl 101  
Figuerro, Maggie 86  
Fili, Daniel 77  
Fili, Jessica 55, 93  
Filbanti, Alexandra  
94, 123, 134, 137  
Fimintini, Leigh 78,  
134, 135  
Fischer, Natalie 94, 175  
Fisher, Mr. Bob 113  
Fisher, Larissa 92, 94  
Fisher, Rizzio 45, 78, 129,  
170, 171  
Fissinger, John 86  
Flahaven, Seth 17, 78,  
119, 131, 176, 177  
Flatts, Rascal 77  
Florence, Robert 86  
Fleming, Alex 86  
Fleming, Cullen 86  
Florek, Jeff 45, 63, 112,  
113, 174, 177  
Florence, Mrs. Carol 101  
Flores, Jessica 94  
Flores, Kaitlyn 78, 120,  
121  
Flores, Logan 86  
Flowers, Alan 94, 138  
Flowers, Stephanie 86  
Flynn, Sam 11, 35, 86,  
177  
Fonseca, Karina 86, 172,  
175, 176  
Football 112, 113, 114,  
115  
Ford, John 92, 94  
Ford, Larry 78  
Foreign Language, De-  
partment 112  
Forit, Vaughn 94  
Formentini, Kevin 94  
Fortner, Mr. Don 101,  
125, 177  
Foster, Morgan 94  
Fox, Edward 78  
Fox, Kyle 78, 113  
Frakes, Alex 7, 63, 140  
Frakes, Kathryn 87, 140,  
175, 177  
Frank, Carrie 87, 137  
Franklin, Mr. David 33,  
39, 100, 101  
Frasco, Eric 44, 94, 119  
Freeman, Whitney 87  
French Club 104, 172  
Freshmen 92-99  
Frye, Andrew 78, 170,  
173, 179  
Fryszak, Peter 94  
Fuehmyer, Lauren 63,  
171, 173, 174  
Fuhs, Amy 63, 110, 111,  
174  
Fulton, Brian 43, 87  
Furlong, Jordan 94

**G**  
Gadzala, Jillian 87  
Gajewski, Stephanie 63  
Galambos, Brian 94, 114  
Galante, Sara 14, 40, 63,  
70, 172, 174, 176, 180  
Gallagher, Jack 87, 138  
Gallegos, Madison 78,  
170, 175, 176, 177  
Garcia, James 94  
Garcia, Monica 94  
Garcia, David 56, 78,  
113  
Garcia, Fabian 87, 170  
Garcia, Omar 94

Gardner, Dan 78, 113  
Gardner, Ryan 94, 114  
Garibay, Crystal 63  
Garibay, Gerardo 94  
Garibay, Rosalba 87  
Gaskey, Matt 78, 131  
Gaskill, John 87, 138  
Gates, Breanna 78  
Gaither, Mike 18, 19,  
45, 94  
Gbagi, Obatarikpo 94,  
176  
Gbagi, Onanome 44,  
94, 176  
Gehring, Matt 78, 173  
Gehring, Steve 94, 108,  
109  
Gehring, Amanda 78  
Gelarden, Mr. Dan 113,  
142, 143  
Gentile, Evan 94  
Gershman, Sean 30, 78,  
138, 139, 172  
Gerber, Jacob 63, 74,  
109, 190  
German, Tyler 94, 171,  
176, 178  
German Club 102, 173  
Gershman, Max 87, 122,  
123  
Gibbs, Carly 63, 174, 177  
Gier, Ed 11, 63, 174  
Gill, Chris 87  
Gill, Joe 113, 131, 133,  
134  
Gill, Justin 87, 113, 132  
Gillund, Nick 63, 73  
Gillworth, Mrs. Phyl-  
is 101  
Ginn, Alexis 94, 175, 178  
Girls' Basketball 134,  
137  
Girls' Cross Country  
110, 111  
Girls' Golf 116, 117  
Girls' Soccer 120, 121  
Girls' Swimming 140,  
141  
Girls' Tennis 150, 151  
Girls' Track 154, 155  
Girn, Ruby 87, 110, 176,  
177  
Gittens, Phil 9, 78  
Gober, Coach Jelena 140  
Gober, Stephanie 78  
Godspell 49, 173  
Goins, Denzel 94, 114  
Goldenberg, Ben 87,  
171, 175, 176, 177  
Goldenberg, Michael 94,  
138, 173, 176  
Goldsmith, Kayle 78,  
175, 176  
Goldsmith, Regan 94  
Gold, Boys' 148, 149  
Golf, Girls' 116, 117  
Gonsalves, Jessica 39  
Gonsalves, Judith 94  
Gonzalez, Angela 37, 94  
Gonzalez, Autumn 94,  
96, 178  
Gonzalez, Ben 94, 171,  
178  
Gonzalez, Camille 13,  
87, 120  
Gonzalez, Matthew 78  
Gonzalez, Russell 47,  
48, 54, 63, 171, 174,  
177  
Good, Brian 63, 183  
Good, Zachary 63  
Goodman, Matt 78, 81,  
119, 176, 177  
Goodrich, Jessica 87,  
120, 137  
Goodwin, Adam 78,  
120

**H**  
Hack, Led 8, 34, 36, 64,  
193  
Hackett, Drew 131  
Hackett, Luke 131  
Hackett, Coach Mike 11,  
100, 101, 130, 131, 133  
Haddad, Anton 94  
Haidich, Kim 78, 178  
Hajduk, Heather 78, 172  
Haie, Matthew 87  
Hamann, William 87  
Hamilton, Kenny 64, 109  
Hamlin, Ashlyn 94  
Hammermeister, Megan  
78  
Hammermeister, Ryan  
78  
Hammond, Mrs. Hallie

170, 172, 173, 179  
Gopal, Goutham 78  
Gopal, Pradeep 87, 170  
Gora, John 87  
Gordon, Mr. Mike 100,  
101  
Gorman, Robert 63  
Gorman, Stephanie 63,  
171, 174  
Gosberry, Devin 52, 54,  
101, 110, 117, 177  
Gosciej, Clarissa 64, 172,  
182  
Gouwens, Elizabeth 94,  
120  
Gouwens, Karen 4, 64,  
120  
Gouwens, Kaitly 87  
Gouwens, Natalie 87,  
120  
Grabarczyk, Stephanie  
40, 94, 170, 173  
Graham, Nikki 64, 170  
Gravett, Mr. Jeff 6, 101,  
103  
Gray, Mr. Bill 124, 125  
Grdina, Emma 47, 87,  
171, 172, 173, 178, 179  
Green, Elizabeth 94, 173  
Green, Joshua 94  
Greider, Christina 41, 94  
Griggs, Sophia 64, 110,  
172, 174  
Grimmer, Gannon 78  
Grogan, Megan 94  
Groszek, Julia 87  
Groszewski, Kassia 36,  
64, 66, 70, 104, 170,  
172, 173, 174, 179  
Grozdzinski, Jelena 12,  
43, 97, 172, 173, 178,  
179, 195  
Grozdzinski, Milana 21,  
45, 64, 70, 172, 174,  
176  
Grubisich, Daniel 87  
Grunevald, Jason 113  
Grunevald, Terry 78,  
119  
Grunevald, Tyler 94  
Guanoon, Anna 64, 171,  
174, 187  
Guill, Mrs. Laura 101  
Gupta, Anesh 94, 122  
Gutierrez, Abel 55, 64,  
172  
Gutierrez, Adrian 87,  
142  
Gutierrez, Diego 94  
Guy, Brian 78, 170,  
172, 175, 176  
Guys and Dolls 50, 51  
Gvero, Marko 38, 87,  
173



101, 103  
Han, Jason 78, 113, 114,  
115  
Hanak, Mitch 52, 78,  
170, 171, 172  
Hanak, Ted 18, 19, 52,  
64, 182  
Hanas, Graham 13, 79,  
122  
Handlon, Stephanie 64  
Hananburg, Douglas 94  
Hannigan, Rachel 87,  
116  
Hansen, Ethan 1, 79  
Hansen, Marilyn 25, 79  
Hanus, Michael 87  
Harangod, Gabe 9, 19,  
64, 177, 194  
Harker, Kristin 87, 178  
Harris, Mrs. Katie 101,  
171  
Harris, Olivia 94, 128,  
129, 208  
Hasse, Billy 15, 28, 64,  
113, 118, 119, 186  
Hastings, Miles 87  
Hastings, Mrs. Nancy  
30, 101, 171, 174  
Haufaire, Drake 87, 138  
Hausmann, Miss Kelly  
25, 101, 103  
Hautzinger, Mr. Larry  
13, 28  
Hawkins, Julie 64, 189,  
192  
Hayes, Lindsay 79, 127,  
170, 171  
Heaney, Grace 79, 170  
Hecimovic, Thomas 79  
Hedra, Madolyn 50, 51,  
87, 172, 173, 174, 176,  
179, 206  
Hehn, Angela 11, 64,  
75, 174  
Heiniger, Rachael 44,  
87, 171  
Heinrich, Kevin 87  
Heintz, Evan 79, 172  
Helfer, Kathryn 64, 110  
Helmer, Joe 113  
Hemingway, Joseph 87  
Henehan, Margaret 87  
Hennig, Andrew 94, 96  
Hennig, Laura 64  
Hennig, Robyn 34,  
47, 87  
Herald, Mary 79  
Herck, Basil 64  
Heritage, John 64  
Hernandez, Anneliese  
87  
Hernandez, Felipe 33,  
64, 75, 195  
Hernandez, Harrison  
64, 105, 138  
Hernandez, Lyndsey 47,  
64, 172, 173, 179  
Hernandez, Malissa 49,  
79, 172, 173  
Hernandez, Sara 94  
Hero, Jason 87  
Herold, Coach Jenny  
125  
Herold, Mr. Josh 101,  
103  
Herr, Amanda 87  
Herr, Mandi 172  
Herrera, Alexandra 94  
Heuer, Billy 79, 122, 123  
Higgins, Melissa 87  
Hilbrich, Jessica 64, 173,  
174, 177  
Hileman, Ron 64  
Hill, Mary 54, 55, 79,  
150, 151, 207  
Hill, Tamar 87  
Hines, Kaitlin 45, 64,  
170, 174  
Hinkleman, Jimmy 94,

132  
Hirsch, Ethan 64  
Hirsch, Matthew 87  
Hilbasko, Chris 87, 122  
Hlista, Michael 64, 87  
Hluska, Katie 79  
Hluska, Rachel 30, 87,  
171, 175, 191  
Hmurovic, Danny 23  
Hobbs, Kaitlyn 94, 120,  
172, 177  
Hodges, Taylor 79, 172,  
175, 176, 177  
Hoffman, Amanda 64,  
172, 175, 191  
Hoffmann, Lori 9, 79,  
175, 176, 177  
Holcomb, Mark 94  
Holt, Becky 94, 125, 137  
Holt, Justin 109  
Homecoming 7, 13, 42,  
43, 44, 45  
Homecoming Dance 54,  
55, 56, 57  
Homer, Lily 87  
Hong, Nicole 65, 107,  
171, 172, 174, 175, 176  
Hong, Yang 92  
Hora, Alexandra 27, 65,  
140, 170, 191  
Hora, Brendan 94  
Horowitz, Ben 65  
Hossain, Faridah 65, 174  
Hott, Erin 79, 173, 175,  
176, 185  
Hott, Justin 94  
Howard, Bill 113, 114  
Howard, George 94,  
113, 114  
Howard, Pat 65, 113,  
115, 174, 188  
Howard, Robby 87,  
174, 175  
Hoyle, Courtney 79,  
140, 173, 174  
Hruska, Megan 38, 65,  
170, 172, 174, 176  
Hsiao, Shelby 87, 172  
Huard, Anthony 87, 119  
Hubbard, Taylor 65, 174  
Huckaby, Courtney 29,  
65  
Huebner, Grant 65, 170,  
172, 176  
Hughes, Kevin 23, 179  
Hulse, Steve 94, 114  
Hunt, Jim 26, 45, 65  
Hurwich, Allie 87, 171,  
176, 177  
Hurwich, Rissa 66, 176  
Hutchings, Elizabeth 94,  
173, 176  
Hutchings, Grant 65, 170,  
172, 176  
Huyse, Steve 94, 114  
Hunt, Jim 26, 45, 65  
Hurwich, Allie 87, 171,  
176, 177  
Hurwich, Rissa 66, 176  
Hutchings, Elizabeth 94,  
173, 176  
IU Honors 13, 29, 30, 40

Jayakar, Daniel 79  
Jayakar, Sujay 122, 170,  
171  
Jenkins, Thomas 87  
Jerger, Mike 87, 119  
Jeter, Ariana 92, 94, 175,  
178  
Jiang, Robin 79, 170,  
171, 176  
John, Papa 16  
Johnson, Alyssa 56, 87  
Johnson, Andy 7, 66,  
170, 173, 174  
Johnson, Doug 87, 177  
Johnson, Doug 79, 172,  
173, 179  
Johnson, Lauren 94, 125,  
178  
Johnson, Mike 66  
Johnson, Princess 94  
Johnson, Sarah 66, 116,  
117, 174, 175, 176, 177  
Jones, Ben 92, 94, 132  
Jones, Clara 79  
Jones, Danielle 94  
Jovanovic, Olga 79  
Juniors 76-83  
Jurich, Tony 94, 172, 177  
Jurkash, John 66, 112,  
113, 115, 174  
Kaiser, Matthew 79  
Kalawala, Kevin 79  
Kalwinski, Mr. Matt  
25, 34, 35, 39, 52, 101,  
113, 114  
Kamalipour, Shirin 28,  
174, 175  
Kaminski, Andrew 66,  
138, 139, 171, 174  
Kanal, Natasha 54, 66,  
176  
Kanal, Nikita 94, 176,  
178  
Kanavos, George 94, 132  
Kansal, Pooja 66, 174  
Karabatak, Gina 6, 95,  
178  
Karr, Coach Bill 122, 123  
Karr, Dan 18  
Kasmark, Sam 44, 66, 67,  
70, 108, 109, 171, 174  
Kaszkur, Joshua 79  
Kattan, Alex 43, 95, 172,  
173, 176  
Kaup, Nirlep 95, 170, 173,  
175, 176, 178  
Kazmer, Devon 87  
Kearney, Tim 95, 174  
Keeler, Brett 67  
Keeler, Erica 95, 127, 171,  
175, 177  
Keifer, Morgan 113  
Keith, Kristina 27, 43, 67,  
173, 176, 177, 194  
Kelley, Mrs. Deb 101  
Kennedy, Eleanor 67, 146,  
147, 177  
Kennedy, Laura 95  
Kennedy, Mr. Steve 177  
Kenzel, Thomas 79  
Kerber, Andrew 95  
Kerner, Kelly 95, 114,  
142  
Keshvani, Neil 7, 67, 174  
Khatiwada, Awa 29,  
79, 175  
Khatiwada, Pooja 67,  
175, 176, 189  
Kho, Kristine 38, 52, 67,  
116, 117, 174, 176, 177

Kikalos, Katie 18, 38,  
48, 175, 79, 106, 170,  
173, 179  
Kilbarda, Max 95, 107,  
114, 138, 177  
Kimes, Taylor 113  
King, Casey 95, 138  
Kinsler, Laura 79, 116,  
117, 170, 171  
Kinsler, Mrs. Anne 101  
Kirby, Elly 1, 13, 79, 140,  
175, 177  
Kirby, Kori 95, 120, 178  
Kish, Nora 67, 176  
Kitchell, Emily 25, 45,  
67, 107  
Kitchell, Jessica 79, 170,  
110, 111, 172, 175, 176  
Kitchell, Lindsey 87,  
110, 177  
Klawitter, Kamryn 95,  
116, 171  
Klema, Elaine 95, 172  
Klissler, Elisabeth 87,  
127, 177, 208  
Klissler, Timothy 79  
Knox, Travis 87, 109,  
138  
Knight, Mark 51, 67, 70,  
172, 173, 174, 179  
Kobus, Gregory 87  
Kocaj, Tracy 79, 116,  
170  
Koetteritz, Jessica 79,  
172, 175, 176  
Kolar, Ashley 67  
Kondamuri, Neil 27, 87,  
122, 170, 171  
Koozy, Kelsey 67, Adam 95  
Korda, Jessica 45, 67,  
124, 125  
Korem, Kara 67, 105,  
140  
Kosellek, Jillian 57, 79,  
175  
Kostel, Danielle 87  
Koufos, Emily 20, 86,  
95, 120  
Koufos, Olivia 43, 95,  
120, 178  
Kouklakis, Alex 27,  
133, 82  
Koulianos, Annie 38,  
67, 172  
Koulourides, Alex 79,  
170  
Koulourides, Andrew  
30, 95, 119, 172, 178  
Kouris, Mrs. Renee 78,  
101  
Kovach, Jakie 176  
Kovach, Kristina 87,  
174, 175, 177  
Kowalski, Jacob 95  
Kozulowski, Michael 79  
Kozupa, Paulina 67,  
170, 174, 176  
Krahn, Rachel 79  
Krahn, Stacy 95, 193  
Krajewski, Brianna 79  
Krasic, Miles 67, 185  
Kretz, Dan 67  
Krishnan, Nithin 79,  
171, 176  
Krolak, Sara 56, 79  
Kroll, Henry 95  
Krueger, Matt 95, 114,  
138  
Krueger, Megan 67  
Krull, Charlie 67, 172,  
174, 176  
Krull, Kathryn 46, 79,  
170, 173, 176, 179  
Krusa, Joe 87, 119, 171,  
174, 176, 177  
Kruska, Kristen 79  
Krzyszinski, Lesley 87  
Kulesa, Jillian 87  
Kumar, Arjun 79, 176

Kumar, Megha 92, 95,  
106, 172, 175, 176, 178  
Kumar, Shailee 19, 28, 67,  
95, 127, 128, 129, 172,  
174, 175, 176, 177, 178  
Kunz, Lyndsey 87, 110,  
111, 140  
Kurovski, Caleb 22, 67,  
173, 174, 177  
Kurovski, Hannah 87,  
172, 173, 175, 177, 179  
Kurovski, Luke 95, 132,  
173  
Kuzma, Marcin 79, 171,  
173, 174, 177  
Kuzma, Paul 67, 171  
Kwasniewski, Jessica 87,  
170, 173, 176  
Kwolek, Michelle 95, 110  
Kwolek, Stephen 88  
Kyriakos, Paige 95, 137,  
176, 177  
Lagestee, Courtney 95  
Lair, Ashley 30, 45, 67,  
174, 192, 195  
Lalib, Peter 88  
Lamas, Justo 104, 177  
Landerous, Ashley 95  
Langbehn, Zach 113, 171  
Lara, Brittany 88, 170  
LaReau, Mr. Paul 11, 103  
Largus, Coach Tonn 113  
Larson, Andrew 95  
Larios, Baudelio 79  
LaRock, Alexa 95, 127  
LaRock, Mitch 37, 43,  
67, 70, 112, 113, 114,  
115, 152  
Larsen, Karen 5, 67, 70, 175,  
185  
Larsen, Sara 67  
Lautz, Gregory 79  
Lawler, Breanne 23, 67,  
73, 140, 174, 185  
Lawler, Jeffrey 95, 119,  
133  
Leary, Hannah 95, 125  
Lebeau, Steven 95  
Ledonne, Joshua 95  
Lee, Christina 88, 175  
Lee, Kevin 92, 95, 114  
Lee, Melissa 29, 47, 88,  
170, 171, 173, 176, 179  
Lee, Taylor 79, 125  
Leeney, Kurt 79, 171, 173  
Lefkowsky, Sarah 67  
Lehmann, Jacob 88  
Lemon, Mrs. Brook 101  
Lemon, Mrs. Linda 44,  
100, 101  
Lemus, Stephanie 54, 67,  
88, 184  
Leonakis, Justine 67, 68  
Leslie, Elizabeth 79, 129  
Leslie, Jillian 88  
Leuser, Michael 95  
Leuser, Patrick 88  
Levan, Brad 67, 68  
Lewandowski, Kaitelin  
171  
Lewandowski, Kaitelin 79  
Lewandowski, Liz 95,  
125  
Lewis, Brad 88, 113, 142  
Lewis, Brian 79, 170, 171,  
173, 179  
Lewis, Mr. Kent 171  
Linnear, Dan 47, 49, 53,  
79, 138, 139, 171, 172,  
173, 177  
Lipinski, Noah 79  
Liss, Christine 95, 125,  
176, 178

Lissy, Jamie 79, 172,  
175, 176  
Lodevsky, Alexandra  
14, 95  
Lolkema, Troy 55, 88  
Lomeli, Erin 95  
Long, Kim 67, 68, 170,  
172, 173, 174, 176,  
177, 178  
Longway, Jeffery 68  
Longway, Joseph 79  
Lopez, Amanda 95  
Lopez, Brandon 79  
Lopez, Collin 96  
Lopez, Erin 79  
Lopez, Leonel 96  
Lopez, Manny 24, 49, 79  
Lopez, Mr. Steve 6, 34,  
81, 122, 123  
Lopez, Mrs. Elena 101,  
103  
Lopez, Ray 28, 79  
Losiniecki, Steve 32, 96,  
114, 175  
Louis, Albie 79  
Lowry, Courtney 96, 120  
Lucas, Amy 27, 88  
Lucas, Andrew 88, 113, 142  
Lucas, Jeff 79, 113, 119,  
130, 131, 133  
Lukic, Milena 96  
Lukoshov, Josh 88, 113,  
132  
Lukich, Mr. Greg 131,  
132  
Lulkic, Milena 175  
Lynch, Meagan 88  
Lyness, Mitch 96, 173  
Macadillo, Kavlá 36, 96,  
173, 175  
Mach, William 88  
Mach, Andrew 79  
Maddatu, Judith 68,  
172, 174  
Madura, Kayla 125  
Madura, Tiffany 96,  
125, 175  
Magallanes, Teresa 88  
Magsaysay, Jill 79, 172  
Majzak, Colleen 96, 170  
Malagon, Mrs. Rosie  
103  
Maldonado, Amber 96,  
178  
Maldonado, Coach  
Bobby 142  
Maldonado, Coach Tim  
142, 143  
Malinski, Ms. Paula 32,  
100, 101  
Malone, Mitch 68  
Manchak, Andrea 79,  
171  
Mandic, Angelina 88,  
125, 170, 171, 172  
Mann, Kaitlin 96, 140  
Mann, Megan 12, 16,  
35, 68  
Manuel, Marci 38, 68,  
170  
Marcetic, Sonny 45, 58,  
68, 75, 139, 138, 139,  
174, 176  
Marcetic, Tamara 96,  
140  
Marching Band  
Seniors 192

Marquez, Chandler 9, 177  
 Marcus, Taylor 15, 88, 104, 129, 176, 177  
 Maryland, Samantha 9, 68, 70, 170, 172, 177  
 Marinakos, Joanna 88  
 Marinakos, Marianne 68, 174  
 Markovich, Nick 68, 181  
 Markovich, Steve 68, 173, 175, 181  
 Marriott, Bridget 88, 110  
 Marsh, Coach Leroy 100, 102, 112, 113, 115  
 Marsh, Ms. Twila 102, 178  
 Martell, Alex 6, 88, 113  
 Martin, Ashley 96  
 Martin, Joshua 96, 138  
 Martin, Matthew 96  
 Martin, Patricia 43, 80  
 Martinez, Joe 80  
 Martinez, Sarah 34, 96  
 Martinez-Fernandez, Sandra 88  
 Martinovic, Dragana 96  
 Matella, Kelly 88, 174  
 Matic, Mrs. Peggy 102  
 Math Department 102  
 Matthews, Terra 96  
 Matthews, Sarah 80  
 Matula, Laura 80, 125  
 Matz, Joseph 88  
 Maul, Brittany 35, 88, 170, 173  
 Maul, Evan 12, 68  
 Mavity, Mike 96, 114, 177  
 May, Adam 80, 138  
 Mayer, Mr. Jordan 102, 177  
 McCarthy, Erin 96  
 McCarthy, Shannon 68, 114, 174  
 McCreagh, Bridget 39, 96, 170, 173, 175, 178  
 McCullough, Emily 42, 96, 173  
 McDonald, Jade 80  
 McDonald, Walter 68  
 McGee, Michael 113  
 McGill, Lauren 88, 127, 176, 177  
 McGuan, Tessa 39, 80, 120, 172  
 McGuire, Eric 142  
 McGuire, Alex 80, 131, 132  
 McIntyre, Erin 68, 171, 172  
 McIntyre, Michael 1, 80  
 McIntyre, Patrick 80, 172  
 McIntyre, Ryan 80  
 McKechnie, Mark 88  
 McKechnie, Megan 7, 45, 68, 126, 127, 178, 180  
 McKechnie, Mike 96, 114  
 McKenzie, Larkin 96, 173  
 McNabney, Mr. Jim 32, 173  
 McNicholas, Matt 26, 29, 88, 113  
 McShane, Evan 96, 109  
 McShane, Kara 20, 86, 88, 176, 178, 208  
 McShane, Mallory 20, 46, 68, 70, 116, 173, 174, 179  
 Medina, Andrea 127  
 Medina, Aurelio 96, 142  
 Megrems, Mark 96

Megysey, Coach Mike 134, 137  
 Megyeri, Michael 113  
 Meier, Mrs. Eileen 102, 173  
 Melder, Kai 88, 170, 173, 174, 179  
 Mendoza, Drew 39, 96  
 Mendoza, Andy 88  
 Meneghetti, Marissa 88, 120  
 Merlos, Amanda 16, 80  
 Merritt, Jon 38, 68, 170, 172, 174, 186, 188  
 Merritt, Kathryn 88, 137  
 Metz, Sam 80, 174  
 Meyer, Brianna 96, 120, 177  
 Meyer, Greg 80, 138, 139, 177  
 Meyers, Dan 53, 80  
 Michalski, Toni 80, 125  
 Michel, Shawn 80, 196  
 Michniewicz, Cody 88  
 Michniewicz, Karl 68, 174  
 Midkiff, Morgan 41, 80, 173, 175, 176, 177, 179  
 Mihich, Martha 80, 173, 175, 176  
 Mihich, Sarah 68, 170, 175, 189  
 Mikolajczyk, Mike 131, 132  
 Milbrath, Carl 68  
 Mileusnic, Nikola 88  
 Miller, Brandon 68, 113, 174  
 Miller, Katie 88, 176, 177  
 Miller, Kristie 88, 175, 176, 177  
 Miller, Kyle 96, 114  
 Miller, Ryan 68, 170, 174  
 Milne, Jordan 80  
 Minton, Katrina 80  
 Mintz, Brenda 47, 49, 96, 173, 174  
 Mintz, Garrett 88, 122, 171, 177  
 Mirabelli, Stephanie 80, 126, 127  
 Miraglia, Katie 80  
 Miraglia, Shane 31, 88  
 Mitchell, Chris 27, 88  
 Mitric, Anja 56, 68, 140, 173  
 Miyashiro, Natalie 68  
 Miyashiro, Renea 88  
 Mockus, Matas 80  
 Modesto, Mr. Bob 27, 102, 150, 151  
 Moffitt, Christian 19, 80  
 Moffitt, Patrick 92, 99  
 Mohammed, Ahmad 96  
 Mojtaba, Tara 96, 172, 175, 176, 178  
 Monagan, Michele 34, 88  
 Monell, Lizzy 68, 69, 124, 125  
 Monjaras, Jessica 96, 170, 175  
 Monos, Ashley 80  
 Monroy, Vickie 88, 177  
 Montella, Nicole 88, 128, 129, 176, 178  
 Montella, Tammy 88, 170  
 Montgomery, Erin 56, 88, 90, 170, 173  
 Moore, Ashley 68, 69, 174, 179  
 Moore, Coach Ron 119  
 Moore, Lindsay 88, 175  
 Moore, Payton 96

Mora, Alessandra 69, 172, 176  
 Moran, Paul 36, 88  
 Moreno, Jonathan 96  
 Moreno, Molina 80, 140  
 Morfas Family Denistry 197  
 Morfas, Nicholas 80, 170, 179  
 Morgan, Chloe 12, 80, 172  
 Morgan, Keifer 24, 88  
 Morris, Kyle 80, 125  
 Morrow, Rachel 17, 86, 88, 125, 172  
 Morse, Sam 97, 176  
 Moss, Erin 80  
 Mota, Amanda 80  
 Moyer, Makaela 88  
 Muangmingsuk, Ding 80  
 Muckel, Hunter 24, 88  
 Muehle, David 49, 50, 51, 53, 88, 170, 171, 173, 176, 179  
 Muczynski, Samantha 80  
 Mudro, Jeremy 97, 172  
 Mudronick, Evan 80  
 Muhrez, Lana 80  
 Mulesa, Justin 80, 170, 173, 176, 179  
 Multani, Ravinder 88  
 Mundy, Kyle 97, 172  
 Munsey, Chantel 12, 88  
 Munster Donut 66  
 Munster Hockey Organization 183  
 Munster Theatre Company 173, 179  
 Munday, Michele 80  
 Murallo, Angel 88, 132  
 Murphy, Brian 69  
 Murphy, Vincent 88  
 Musgrove, Tyler 97, 177  
 Musical, Fall 49  
 Musical, Spring 50, 51  
 Musleh, Ayat 97, 178  
 Musleh, Monah 97  
 Musleh, Asan 80  
 Mustain, Sarah 80

# N

Nadratowski, Kellie 34, 88, 125, 170, 173, 175, 179  
 Nakagawa, Takehito 80  
 Nallenweg, Brandon 23  
 Naray, Sandhya 96  
 Nass, 172, 170, 172, 176, 177  
 National Honor Society 174  
 Nau, Christine 88  
 Navarro, Joey 45, 88  
 Needles, Mrs. Teresa 102  
 Neiner, Eric 80  
 Nelson, Matt 80, 113  
 Nelson, Rachael 97, 177  
 Newcomb, Jon 24, 35, 97, 175, 177  
 Newell, Samantha 177  
 Newell, Spencer 47, 97, 170, 177  
 Newman, Allison 80, 170, 171, 173, 175, 179  
 Newman, Jordan 88  
 Newman, Justin 25, 42, 69  
 Newman, Randy 74  
 Newton, Vincent 97

Nguyen, Lana 80, 170, 172  
 Nijls, 174  
 Nicholas, Mrs. Lori 102  
 Niemiec, Teddy 47, 92, 97  
 Nieves, Alicia 80, 176  
 Nolan, Jim 97, 177  
 Nolan, Mr. Morgan 34, 102, 113, 114, 138  
 Noortens, David 69, 142  
 Norris, Anthony 80  
 Norris, Ashley 80, 172  
 Nossem, Kevin 80, 113, 172, 177  
 Noshbaum, Shayne 88  
 Novak, Kate 97, 175, 178  
 Novakovich, Gina 69, 174, 175  
 Novatny, Jay 88  
 Novice Play 46, 47  
 Novosky, Jennifer 69, 110  
 Novotney, Jessica 14, 80  
 Nowaczky, Megan 97, 129  
 Nowaczky, Nick 80, 113  
 Nowicki, Rose 80, 170  
 Nowinski, Rachel 80  
 Noworyta, Matthew 80

# O

O'Brian, Patrick 138  
 O'Brien, Anjelica 23  
 O'Brien, Joe 69, 138, 173  
 O'Brien, Kyle 88, 113, 177  
 O'Brien, Rachel 88, 173  
 O'Connor, Brian 80, 207  
 O'Drobink, Kenneth 50, 51, 80, 170, 172, 173, 176, 179  
 O'Hara, Brian 69  
 O'Hara, Jessica 80  
 O'Rourke, Mrs. Heidi 128  
 Oesterle, Gail 37, 88, 171, 173  
 Ogrizovich, Nina 97, 120, 137, 178  
 Ogrizovich, Pero 45, 69, 70, 173, 174, 196  
 Okolocha, Chike 69, 70  
 Okolocha, Obinna 80  
 Olasehinde, Fred 80, 108, 109, 171, 172, 178  
 Olgy, Walter 97, 114  
 Olivetto, Ms. Kathy 102  
 Ollo, Tanner 28, 51, 80, 172, 173, 174  
 Ondo, Steven 80  
 Oner, Namuk 88  
 Oner, Yasmine 92, 97  
 Ong, Bryan 92, 97, 176  
 Ong, Stephen 69, 70, 122, 170, 174, 177  
 Opinkier, Paige 97, 171, 173, 176, 178  
 Opperman, Kristin 97, 172  
 Orchestra 174, 175, 189  
 Ornelas, Adrian 80  
 Orr, Jordan 14, 80  
 Orsini, Tim 26, 30, 80, 113  
 Ortiz, Mike 44, 97, 114  
 Ossanna, Michaela 80  
 Osterman, Jake 97, 114, 132  
 Ostioch, Alex 88, 113, 173, 176, 178  
 Oswald, Maddie 23, 80  
 Otto, Ryan 88, 173

# P

Paarlberg, Heather 80  
 Pack, Katherine 80, 176, 177  
 Pagane, Jenna 21, 97, 120, 137  
 Pagane, Kristen 70, 120, 121, 134, 174, 194  
 Pajor, Presley 97  
 Pakan, Cassie 27, 97, 140  
 Pakan, Nikki 70, 140  
 Palma, Joe 97, 172  
 Palmer, Katie 36, 42, 88, 104, 125, 170, 172, 173, 175, 176, 179  
 Pannell, Kenneth 80  
 Panos, Dimitri 97, 114  
 Panozzo, Danielle 88  
 Pantazis, Nick 70, 173  
 Papadatos, Anastasia 97, 170, 173, 179  
 Papesch, Eric 70  
 Papesch, Kyle 97, 132  
 Paquette, Dudley 80, 171, 174, 175  
 Paragon 174  
 Parikh, Rusli 88  
 Park, Wicker 116, 117  
 Parobek, Alexander 88  
 Partida, Peyton 97  
 Pasra, Antonio 89  
 Pastana, Lovelyn 70  
 Patel, Chirag 70, 172  
 Patel, Kush 80, 172  
 Patel, Shivani 80, 172, 178  
 Patil, Lalit 97  
 Patterson, Paige 81, 140, 176  
 Patton, Holly 89, 177  
 Patten, Heena 89, 170, 172, 176, 178  
 Paulson, Dan 38, 89  
 Paunicka, Matthew 97  
 Pavic, Ratovan 56  
 Pavlov, Gleb 23, 97  
 Pavnick, Ian 70, 177  
 Pazio, Lauren 54, 89, 175, 176, 179  
 Peach, Jessica 25, 70, 71, 73, 172  
 Pearman, Colleen 71, 73  
 Peck, Garrett 97, 114  
 Peck, Max 81  
 Pellicciotti, Annie 71  
 Pena, Luke 92, 97  
 Pendrick, Dustin 28, 89  
 Penz, Jennifer 71, 174, 176  
 Penning, Dezeraze 89  
 Perala, Manuel 81  
 Percifield, Mr. Glen 12, 30, 102, 177  
 Perez, Karina 89  
 Perez, Nicole 97, 172, 175, 177  
 Perkins, Ben 85, 89  
 Perz, Ann 81, 172, 174, 175  
 Peters, Jenny 32, 89, 172  
 Petrovich, Milan 89  
 Pfister, Miss Patti 134  
 Pfister, Mr. William 81  
 Phum, Ms. Valerie 120, 121, 171, 174  
 Phelan, Alana 71, 176  
 Phillipsborn, Michelle 71, 172, 173, 175, 192  
 Phillips, Mike 81, 170, 173, 178  
 Phipps, Mike 89, 132  
 Physical Education 101,

# Q

Pickett, Ashley 97, 172, 176  
 Pietruszka, Loris 5, 89, 90  
 Ping Pong Club 15, 104  
 Pitsas, Demetrios 81  
 Pitsas, Elaine 13, 97, 99, 140, 177  
 Platt, Brian 91, 71, 108, 109, 145, 171, 174, 191  
 Platt, Brooks 97, 99, 108, 109  
 Plewniak, Kaitlyn 97, 175, 177  
 Pluird, Brandon 132  
 Plock, Molly 71, 174, 177  
 Podkul, Mrs. Jackie 45, 171  
 Puccio, Alex 97  
 Pohrie, Ryan 97, 170, 173  
 Popovich, Kurt 70, 71, 170, 173, 179  
 Poppa, Ethan 81  
 Porras, Joseph 81  
 Porter, Amanda 81, 128, 129, 176  
 Portillo, Claudia 24, 71, 170, 177  
 Posey, Sarah 39, 81, 134, 136, 175, 176, 177  
 Potts, Mike 97, 132  
 Poulos, Leslie 38, 81  
 Poulos, Matt 138  
 Poulos, Stephanie 10, 81, 120  
 Poulos, Thomas 89  
 Powell, Alex 38, 89, 113  
 Prado, Omar 81, 170  
 Pranske, April 89  
 Praspoulos, Coach Jim 118, 119  
 Premetz, Mrs. Pat 102  
 Prenderville, Amber 97  
 Pressley, Gabrielle 89, 177  
 Pressley, Hannah 97  
 Priestel, Alexander 97, 172  
 Project Bio 101  
 Project X 175  
 Prom 54, 55, 56, 57  
 Pucalik, Kyle 89  
 Pudlow, Mike 81, 177  
 Pugh, Samantha 97  
 Puhe, Mitch 81, 113  
 Pukoszek, Matt 81, 172  
 Pulley, Kristen 33, 81, 175  
 Puryear, Amanda 7, 23, 27, 71  
 Puvogel, Julie 97, 137, 178  
 Pycinska, Anna 8, 33, 71, 140

# Q

Quadeer, Tariq 81  
 Qualls, Tim 71, 142, 143, 174, 176  
 Quenzler, Madison 89, 170  
 Qureshi, Talha 71, 122, 170

# R

Radbel, Ryan 28, 89  
 Radmilovic, Anđelja 97, 120, 171  
 Rahmany, Sharif 97, 172  
 Ranker, Nisha 34, 70, 71,

- 170, 176  
Rainer, Nicole 48, 49  
Ramirez, Armando 41,  
89, 170, 174, 175, 177  
Ramirez, David 71, 142,  
143, 207  
Ramirez, Isabella 97  
172, 175, 176, 178  
Ramirez, Thomas 29, 97  
Ramirez, Valen 81  
Rangel, Melissa 81, 170  
Rao, Ambika 81  
Rapun, Frank 97, 138  
Rapun, Gabby 97, 138  
140, 172  
Rasamiman, Sara 81,  
172, 175, 177  
Rashid, Mursal 97, 178  
Rastogi, Anisha 71, 174  
Rastogi, Sujatha 20, 71,  
14  
Ratajczak, Joel 97, 176  
Ratner, Michelle 78, 114  
Rausch, Andy 97, 114  
Rausch, Kevin 97  
Ravi, Abhinav 29, 81  
172, 177, 178  
Raycroft, Patrick 37, 89,  
138, 139, 178  
Raynor, Jordan 97  
Raynor, Nicole 81, 127,  
172, 173, 179  
Razey, Jenny 12, 55, 66,  
71, 177  
Raziuddin, Sameera 6,  
81, 170, 172, 175, 176,  
177  
Raziuddin, Sophia 89,  
170, 172, 176, 177, 178  
Razon, Jeremiah 89  
Reba, Chris 89, 104, 109,  
170, 171, 172, 175, 176  
Recreational Sports 106,  
107  
Recio, Marco 97, 114  
Reed, Chelsea 97  
Reindl, Peter 97  
Reinsma, Nicole 89  
Remec, Bailey 71, 174,  
190  
Remmers, Clarke 47,  
51, 89, 170, 171, 172,  
173, 174, 176, 179  
Reno, Aubrey 97, 176,  
178  
Resler, Mike 97, 106, 196  
Rhoda, Adam 81, 113,  
142  
Rhoda, Matt 97, 114, 142  
Ricchio, Roberta 81, 175  
Ridder, Jennifer 81, 175,  
176  
Riggs, Emilie 24, 97,  
170, 173, 178, 206  
Riley, Shannon 81  
Riley, Steven 81  
Rindoks, Thomas 89  
Ritz, Brian 71, 172, 174  
Ritz, Kyle 36, 89, 131,  
132  
Rizzo, Mrs. Marilyn 23,  
102  
Roach, Chelsea 89, 120  
Roach, Eric 12, 81, 170,  
173  
Roach, Robert 90  
Roberts, Sarah 82, 171,  
174  
Robertson, Eric 35  
Robles, Angel 90, 142  
Robles, Danny 97, 114  
Rodriguez, Bruna 97  
Rodriguez, Mrs. Alyssa  
100, 102  
Rodriguez, Ariana 71,  
170, 172, 174, 175,  
176, 189  
Rodriguez, Camille 90  
Rodriguez, Danica 38,  
82, 140, 170, 172, 175  
Rodriguez, Nicole 90  
Rogers, Amanda 38, 90,  
175, 176  
Rogowski, John 82  
Roller, Jenna 12, 82, 120  
Roman, Jennifer 39, 71,  
140, 170, 186  
Rooth, Jenny 90, 175,  
176, 177  
Roque, Gabby 97, 120,  
137  
Roque, Jared 97, 114  
Roque, Sarah 16, 82, 173,  
176, 179  
Rosales, Alex 41, 71,  
172, 174  
Roser, Kristi 90, 126,  
127, 178  
Rossi, Jessica 82  
Rosser, Sarah 90  
Rossiano, Mr. Chris 10,  
27  
Rothstein, Coach Sid 122  
Rowley, Evan 97  
Roy, Danielle 71  
Roy, Taylor 90  
Rubesa, Brianne 82,  
116, 134, 135, 170  
Rubino, Anthony 97  
Rubino, Sarah 71, 170,  
180  
Ruffalo, Dominic 97, 175  
Ruiz, Brandon 1, 14, 34,  
54, 71, 119, 130, 131,  
133  
Ruiz, Gerardo 5  
Ruiz, John 12, 82, 105, 119,  
130, 131, 133  
Ruiz, Logan 97  
Ruiz, Stephanie 82, 140  
Rumbolo, Roberto 75  
Russell, Mr. David 102  
Rutkowski, Jason 82, 172  
Rutkowski, Rachel 12, 82  
Rutledge, Mary Ann 82  
**S**  
Sabbah, Nada 90  
SADD 176  
Saez, Diana 82  
Sakelaris, Robert 90  
Salata, Alyssa 90, 134  
Salisbury, Leslie 90, 127  
Salzeider, Samantha 98  
Samaan, George 82, 174  
Samaniego, Allison 98,  
170, 172  
Sanders, Bryan 43, 45,  
71, 190  
Sanders, Thomas 90  
Sanderick, Mary 49, 82,  
173, 174  
Sannito, Andru 71, 72  
Santos, Miguel 71, 72  
Sappity, Gabby 98, 120,  
137, 173  
Sarnowsky, Shelby 98,  
125, 175  
Sasek, Cody 71, 72  
Saucedo, Emily 90, 176,  
178  
Sayre, Mrs. Judy 102  
Scarnavack, Brock 12, 35,  
82, 172, 175, 176, 177  
Schauer, Dominique 98  
Schlesinger, Sam 98, 177  
Schlotman, Kelly 90,  
120, 121  
Schmidt, Brian 71, 72,  
118, 119, 196  
Schmidt, Kaylin 98  
Schnick, Jake 98  
Schneider, Elyse 88, 140,  
170, 173, 175  
Schuhler, Elizabeth 82  
Schumacher, Mrs. Lynn  
102, 170  
Schwartz, Aaron 82  
Schwartz, Elana 98, 178  
Schwartz, Tyler 82, 109,  
170, 171, 175  
Schwarz, Ellen 90, 176  
Schweitzer, Alyssa 98,  
125  
Schweitzer, Brandon 105  
Science Department 100  
Science Olympiad 179  
Scott, Amanda 44, 56, 72,  
120, 134, 136, 137, 171  
Scott, Molly 4, 90, 125,  
134, 137  
Scully, Danielle 90, 120  
Seaman, Annie 72, 140  
Seaman, John 98, 114,  
242  
Sebanse, Belinda 72, 187  
Sege, Anup 90, 127, 187  
Roy, Danielle 71  
Seligman, Jessica 90  
Seniors 58-75  
Sepiol, Stephanie 49, 50,  
51, 82, 172, 173, 177,  
179  
Sepiol, Vanessa 90  
Sergiyenko, Dima 82,  
173  
Shacklett, Matt 52, 82,  
113  
Shah, Aaditya 92, 98,  
122, 123, 172, 176, 177  
Shah, Monica 98, 170,  
176  
Shah, Neal 72, 170, 174,  
177  
Shah, Niral 98, 170, 172,  
173  
Shah, Niyati 40, 90, 171  
Shah, Reema 90, 170  
175, 176, 177, 178  
Shah, Supriya 82  
Shalen, Jake 98, 119, 177  
Shaner, Sam 82, 113  
Shapiro, Rebecca 83  
Sharmat, Nathan 98  
Shaw, Colleen 72, 134,  
135, 137  
Shaw, Keith 6, 83, 113  
Sherron, Anna 72  
Shields, Sam 98, 173  
Shih, Steve 83, 122, 177  
Shimala, Ryan 72, 145  
Shinkam, Coach Bob 102,  
113, 134, 137, 144, 145  
Shlensky, Julia 91, 176,  
178  
Shlensky, Mitchell 72,  
191  
Shmagranoff, Aleksandr  
1, 72, 119, 172, 174  
Shmagranoff, Rachel 98,  
120, 172  
Shreibak, Ryan 98  
Shreibak, Shannon 98,  
178  
Shreve, Matt 83, 122  
Shultz, Lynlee 83, 107  
Shweitzer, Brandon 71  
Shweitzer, Lindsey 72  
Siadakh, Seth 72  
Siano, Michael 91  
Sicinski, Chris 91, 106  
Siddiqui, Rima 83, 177  
Siddiqui, Ruha 91  
Siegers, Mrs. Shonna 27,  
28, 170  
Sieruga, Rachel 98  
Sikora, Leann 72  
Sikora, Sarah 91, 140,  
175, 177  
Silaj, Katie 42, 91, 127,  
177  
Silvas, Joseph 98  
Silverman, Jenny 11,  
91, 116  
Simmons, Meagan 98,  
177  
Sineni, Gabrielle 98  
Singh, Mubarak 72, 172  
Siriano, Christian 16  
Skaggs, Molly 83  
Skerik, Sarah 91, 120,  
177  
Skertich, Stephanie 83,  
175, 176, 177  
Skiba, Matt 91, 113, 171,  
177  
Skimehorn, Allison 85,  
91, 116, 117, 177  
Skoglund, Paul 23, 83,  
142, 143  
Skurka, Kevin 131, 132  
Slaboski, Kristen 91, 128,  
129, 176, 178  
Slam, Michael, Andrea 91  
170, 172, 173, 175, 176,  
177  
Slifko, Nolan 40, 56, 72,  
113, 171  
Slifko, Timothy 98  
Sliva, Molly 83  
Slivjak, Aleksandra 83,  
172  
Slosser, Justin 91, 142  
Sluder, Mr. Rick 102  
Smit, Joshua 123  
Smith, Ashley 22  
Smith, Gail 83  
Smith, Jack 72, 98, 113,  
114, 119, 138, 142, 143  
Smith, Kayla 98, 126, 127  
Smith, Luke 98, 114, 142  
Smith, Mr. Mike 102  
Smith, Samantha 83, 188  
Smith, Tara 92  
Smith, Zach 72  
Smitka, Mr. Bill 33, 102,  
103, 113  
Sobilo, Jonathan 83  
Soccer, Boys' 119, 120  
Soccer, Girls' 120, 121  
Soezky, Casimir 98  
Sooka, Erik 72  
Soeka, Steven 72  
Sofball 146, 147  
Sofka, Emily 72, 170  
Sokol, Mr. Joe 27, 102,  
104, 171, 173, 174  
Solola, Brianna 98, 175,  
178  
Sophomores 84-91  
Sopko, Mr. Tim 120, 121  
Sopko, Mrs. Donna 120  
Soren, Nemanja 83  
Spanish Club 100, 104,  
107, 173, 177, 178  
Sparks, Brandon 98, 173  
Specht, Kyle 37, 98,  
120, 177  
Speedman, Emily 91,  
129, 175, 176, 177  
Speech and Debate 176,  
179  
Speranza, Patrick 83  
Spicer, Curtis 83  
Spinks, Paige 98, 106,  
125, 175, 177  
Spinosa, Taylor 98, 114  
Spitz, Ashley 1, 98  
Spolnik, AJ 82, 83, 171,  
177  
Sports, Fall 108-125  
Sports, Spring 108-125  
Sports, Recreational 106,  
107  
Sports, Spring 144-155  
Sports, Winter 130-143  
Spungen, Alyssa 72, 193  
Spring Musical 50, 51  
Spurlock, Kelli 91  
Spyridopoulos, Marko 11,  
19, 72, 208  
Stretenovic, Marko 11,  
75, 196  
Stacy, Megan 83  
Stan, Mrs. Michelle 102  
Standley, Jack 44, 72  
Stanley, Mrs. Mason 91  
Starcevic, Kristen 91  
Starcevic, Lauren 98  
Starsha, Alex 72, 119  
Stein, Miss Alicia 102,  
170  
Steinberg, Josh 91, 177  
Stepanovich, Adam 98,  
170, 175, 176, 177  
Stephens, John-Paul 92,  
98  
Stevens, Holly 83, 172,  
173, 175, 176  
Stewart, Kyle 42  
Stewart, Matt 30, 83, 109  
Stewart, Trevor 72  
Stier, Miss Kathleen 102  
Stiffler, Ryan 36, 91  
Stock, Miriam 98, 176  
Stoffman, Nick 43, 44,  
45, 52, 73, 119, 174,  
178, 189  
Stolarz, Brian 98, 130,  
131, 132  
Stone, Lizzy 83, 127,  
171, 172  
Stopper, Mr. Corky 102  
Stopper, Mrs. Rita 102  
Storino, Anthony 98  
Storino, Michael 98, 178  
Strimel, Samantha 98,  
172  
Strohl, Brett 83, 113  
Strong, Tabitha 38, 73,  
100, 172, 174, 176  
Stuart, Kelly 73, 118, 119,  
174, 206  
Student Government 67,  
68, 69, 72, 73, 74, 75,  
178, 179  
Suggs, Sheldon 91, 138  
Surma, Alex 91  
Surma, Kelsey 98  
Svoboda, Ian 91, 108, 109  
Swardford, Rory 83, 170,  
172, 173  
Swetlik, Zachary 91  
Swibes, Stephen 98  
Swift, Michael 98  
Swift, Mike 114  
Swimming, Boys' 138,  
139  
Swimming, Girls' 140,  
141  
Swing, Jamie 83  
Switzer, Jake 92, 98, 114  
Sylvester, Anthony 44, 98  
Sylvester, Robert 83  
Sylvester, Deanna 91  
Sylvester, Evan 98, 132,  
173  
Szany, Nathan 83  
Szarmach, Ms. Sarah 11,  
102  
Scumlas, Danielle 91,  
172, 175, 176, 177  
Szura, Terry 98  
**T**  
Tabor, Dylan 91  
Tabor, Richard 91  
Tabor, Shane 91  
Tantillo, Sam 73, 151, 172  
Tanzillo, Lauren 73, 128,  
129  
Tanzillo, Mrs. Betsy 102,  
103  
Taylor, Ben 83, 113, 170,  
171, 181  
Taylor, Karly 98  
Taylor, Katie 38, 98, 127,  
175, 177, 178  
Taylor, Shelby 83, 128,  
129  
Taylor, Steve 55, 56, 83  
Tayman, Zachary 98  
Tech Week 46, 48  
Tennis, Boys 122, 123  
Tennis, Girls 150, 151  
Tepperman, Jacob 21,  
83, 122, 123, 172  
Terry, Christina 4, 83,  
138, 178  
Thespians 179  
Thomans, Joshua 98  
Thompson, Dakota 83,  
170, 172, 177  
Thompson, Dillon 98,  
138, 178  
Thompson, Matt 52, 73,  
138, 139, 170, 174, 176,  
178, 187  
Thorpe, Mr. Jim 177  
Tile, Jerrett 44, 83, 113  
Tiwana, Farnam 27, 73,  
170, 172, 174, 176  
Tobias, Coach Robin  
138, 139, 140, 141  
Tobias, Mrs. Janet 39,  
102, 103, 138, 140  
Todorovich, Jelena 98,  
171, 208  
Tomazsin, Sen 83, 138,  
172, 174  
Tomcsi, Mr. Chris 24, 26,  
102, 103, 134, 171  
Tomczak, Evan 91  
Torres, Jose 83, 112, 113  
Torres, Rogelio 98  
Torr, Angie 73, 124,  
125, 172  
Toth, Kaelyn 98, 137  
Touma, Zachary 91, 107,  
173, 178  
Track, Boys' 152, 153  
Track, Girls' 154, 155  
Tratar, Max 53, 73, 105,  
172, 113, 115  
Traxler, Grant 91, 113  
Traxler, Kristina 98, 125,  
178  
Trevino, Rachael 55, 83,  
172, 175, 176, 177  
Tribou, Molly 83, 128,  
129  
Tribou, Natalie 98  
Tribou, Nathan 98  
Trimolt, Corey 73  
Tripentfelds, Mr. Steven  
103  
Tritsch, Jenna 34, 53, 73,  
74, 172  
Tritsch, Zachary 52, 91,  
122, 171, 178  
Trotman, Rachel 83  
Trykall, David 15, 98,  
99, 170, 178  
Tsoutsouris, Mrs. Char-  
lene 103  
Tucker, Jeff 131  
Turnabout 54, 55, 56, 57  
Turner, Emily 91  
Tuttle, Shawn 18, 39, 98,  
170, 171, 173, 176  
Tzolov, Irena 26, 91, 120,  
172, 175, 176, 177  
Tzolov, Michael 98  
**V**  
Vachhani, Neelam 83  
Vail, Ms. Sharon 103  
Vallese, Jeff 73, 74

Van Doursen, Chad 91  
Van Doursen, Katherine 98  
Van Dommelen, Lauren 91  
Van Kleef, Josh 91  
Van Kleeven, Jessica 98  
Van Wieren, Nick 40, 46, 48, 78, 83, 170, 173, 179  
Vance, Brian 113  
Vanes, Amber 98  
Vanes, Steven 73, 74  
Varnum, Ben 83, 175, 176, 177, 178  
Vasquez, Brandon 25, 30, 73, 74, 192  
Vasquez, Gilbert 19, 98  
Vasquez, Lauren 98  
Vassallo, Bennie 89, 91, 170, 173  
Vassallo, Michael 91  
Vega, Zach 43, 91, 119, 132, 133  
Velazquez, Gilroy 25, 112, 113, 115, 142  
Velazquez, Gregory 74  
Velazquez, Mattie 74, 127  
Verkruse, Katie 83, 170, 172, 173, 174, 177  
Vermier, Robert 98  
Vesa, Mrs. Beth 146, 147, 171  
Vetrano, Melissa 83  
Vezmar, George 74  
Vicari, Mrs. Sarah 33, 39, 103  
Vicenta, Manuel 27, 118  
Vick, Calvin 98  
Villalobos, Jadd 83  
Villalreal, Samantha 91  
Vitkus, Mike 99, 114  
Vlahos, Catherine 23, 99  
Vlahu, Alex 21, 91, 174  
Vlasich, Matthew 77, 83  
Vogel, Amy 83, 170, 171, 175, 176, 178  
Volleyball 124, 125  
Voss, Bailey 91, 171, 177  
Vusak, Carter 99

Watterson, Julianne 49, 74, 75, 173, 174, 176, 179  
Watterson, Kevin 91, 113, 114, 132  
Wayne, Austin 74, 75  
Webb, Simon 36, 91, 132  
Webber, Mary 74, 75, 172, 189  
Webber, Melissa 83, 172, 173, 175  
Webster, Kurt 52, 53, 83  
Weinberg, Brandon 99, 170, 177  
Welch, Alex 83, 113  
Welch, Allison 83, 120  
Wells, Mr. Mike 103  
Wernin, Mr. Jonas 44  
Westfield, Lexi 91, 140, 175, 178  
Wey, Michael 55, 74, 75, 180  
White, Andrew 83  
White, Brandon 91, 177  
White, John 83, 113  
White, Molly 22, 70, 74, 75, 174, 176  
Whiting, Emily 22, 83, 127  
Whiting, Eryn 83, 125  
Whiting, Sarah 56, 91  
Whitlock, Lazerick 22, 42, 52, 75, 170, 174, 176, 178, 193  
Wible, Adam 83  
Wierman, Stacey 21, 91, 140, 141, 175, 177  
Wilczynski, Debbie 75, 127, 170, 184  
Wild Oats 46, 47, 48, 173  
Wilkinson, Ryan 91, 113  
Williams, Blake 75, 108, 109, 171, 174, 175, 176, 177  
Williams, Elaine 91  
Williams, Grant 78, 83, 109, 172, 175, 176, 177, 178  
Williams, Laine 42, 43, 54, 128, 129, 175, 176, 177, 178  
Willis, James 83, 174  
Willis, Joseph 91  
Willis, Joshua 91  
Wilson, Denise 91  
Wilson, Eli 91, 122  
Wisotsky, Mallory 91  
Witter, Chloe 91, 172  
Witter, Chris 75, 170, 171, 172, 177, 182  
Wojcik, Josh 91, 175  
Woitovich, Jordan 83  
Wold, Kelly 9, 83, 126, 127, 175, 176  
Woods, Mr. Bill 35  
Worries, Ms. Janet 125  
Wozniak, Bogusz 91, 113  
Wrestling 142, 143  
Wroblewski, Mr. Steve 11, 103  
Wujcik, Nicole 99  
Wulf, Joe 91, 138, 177  
Wynn, Austin 83, 122, 123, 193  
Wysocki, Erin 83, 170, 172

Yanef, Andre 83  
Yates, Olivia 83, 172, 173, 176, 179  
Ye, Hao 91  
Yee, Tim 41, 75, 174, 177, 178  
Yepez, Adrian 91, 113

Yi, Nick 19, 44, 52, 53, 75, 138, 189  
Yokovich, Joshua 91  
Yothment, Chris 99, 173  
Yothment, Meagan 45, 75, 174, 176, 177, 185  
Young, Christian 99, 132

Zadrozny, Angelique 99, 137  
Zagar, Krista 34, 91, 172  
Zahariadis, Steven 99, 175, 177  
Zajac, Stephen 99, 170, 172  
Zarowny, Evan 99  
Zawistowski, Danielle 99  
Zehner, Brittany 43, 69, 75, 129, 170, 173, 177  
Zelenika, Steve 1, 57, 75  
Zembla, Nathan 99, 170  
Zembrowski, Tomas 91  
Zhou, Fengyee 95, 99, 170, 176, 177  
Ziadat, Feras 75  
Ziemba, Lindsey 75, 125  
Ziemba, Sean 91, 113, 142  
Zimmerman, Amanda 75  
Zivich, Julie 75, 110, 173, 174, 175, 176, 188  
Zoppetti, Brandon 19, 99, 138  
Zurek, Lisa 54, 91, 172, 175, 176, 177

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**Advisor** Mrs. Nancy Hastings

## Colophon

An inexperienced had no idea how to put a yearbook together and they didn't know what to expect, which caused the writers to miss many early deadlines. This added pressure and stress on the writers when more than half of the book had to be completed when April came around. The four writers greatly relied on their adviser, Mrs. Nancy Hastings for assistance in layouts and brainstorming ideas until they got the hang of it. We soon learned the **We called this fun.**

Special thanks goes to Herff Jones Representative, Lisa Keene, for cookies, Olive Garden dinners, and words of constant positive attitude.

*Paragon* Volume 43 "And You Call this Fun?" was printed by Herff Jones, 2525 Midpoint Dr., Edwardsville, KS 66111 with the aid of in-plant Customer Service Advisor Lisa Merino. With a press run of 1125, the 208-page book featured 100 lb. Bordeaux paper. Early orders of the yearbook cost \$43, while late May orders rose to \$48 and \$60 for any extra copies when the book arrived in August.

The book features a staff created four-color litho cover with gloss lamination. Inspira-

tion for the theme phrase, "And You Call this Fun?" came from a magazine advertisement.

The yearbook featured headlines using Helvetica Neue and Palatino, while copy and captions featured Palatino. Original designs were inspired by magazine spreads compiled for a Creativity Book project.

All pages were submitted on CD, using Adobe InDesign CS2 and Adobe Photoshop. Our staff photographers shot most of the yearbook digitally on Publications Department Nikon D70s and photographers' own Canons, while they processed and printed approximately 15 percent of the photos with black and white Kodak TMAX 400. Halterman/Root Photography Studios in Ottawa, IL, shot all underclassman and senior portraits, as well as club group shots. Mr. David Russell supplied the team shots for the sports spreads, along with lots of advice for our computer and Photoshop needs.

The 2007 *Paragon* "like always, like never before" was named a National Scholastic Press Association Pacemaker finalist, Indiana High School Press Association Hoosier Star, and earned 2nd in Best of Show at the IEA/NSPA Fall National Convention in Philadelphia.





with might Alisa Bochnowski, sophomore, practices for speech Catholic Nationals. In journalism Emilie Riggs, freshman, laughs while censoring the *Chicago Tribune*. finger pointing Maddie Hedin, sophomore, plays the lead of *Adelaide for Guys and Dolls*. antler antics Kyle Stuart, senior, dresses for the East Chicago basketball game.

# Run For It

As the year comes to an end, students continue to find fun.

**With the blinding sun** beaming down and the rising temperatures signaling an end to the school year, students found it harder and harder to stay in their seats until June 6. No one thought the warm weather would ever come since it had been one of the coldest springs in over 10 years. However, teachers still kept the activities in class going.

**With a light breeze** in the air, Mrs. Tammy Daugherty's English Literature students read *Gulliver's Travels* outside. After struggling through worksheets on area and volume, students in Mr. Stephen Wroblewski's geometry classes flew kites for extra credit as part of their study on shapes. The smell of smoky barbeque lingered in the air at Wicker Park as Spanish Club, German Club and ASL Club had their final picnic outing.

**With three valedictorians**, the Senior Class graduated 354 students and earned \$7.4 million in scholarship money, the highest recorded amount for Munster seniors. Student Government donated 91 units of blood for the American Red Cross during the April Blood Drive, while they also helped Patrick Doherty, senior, raise \$1,000 for Community Hospital cancer research from the students vs. faculty basketball game.

**DECA students** Robin Jiang and Viraj Maniar, juniors, finished first in Sports and Entertainment Marketing at the April International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, GA. At the Bloomington State Track and Field meet, seniors Devin Gosberry and Ruth Christopher took 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in the 400-meter dash, while Whitney Freeman, sophomore, took 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 300 hurdles as the Girls' Track Team finished 4<sup>th</sup>. The Girls' Tennis Team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> at State and tied with Homestead for six 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes, the most in state history.





**do a little dance** Leg in the air, Mary Hill, junior, dances on the court before a tennis match. "We would play music during warm-ups," Mary said. "We would dance and sing. It really got us fired up."



**charging forward** In the game against ASL and France, foreign language student David Ramirez, senior, participate in the World Class Soccer Tournament to compete for the championship. Mrs. Lynn Schumacher's ASL classes won the tournament and Mrs. Schumacher took the American flag and started parading around the field to celebrate the 5th hour win.

**picture perfect** In between classes, Michele Murday, junior, looks at Brianne O'Connor's, junior, prom pictures. "I went to another prom, so I didn't get to see any of my friends," Michele said. Michele attended Washington Township's prom, which took place the same night as Munster's prom.

**wind blowing** Jelena Todorovich, freshman, gets ready to fly her kite in geometry. **tongue out** Jeff Spryka, senior, dips food into the chocolate fountain at Prom. **joking around** Kara McShane shares light moments with friends at lunch. **looking away** Ashley Arens, senior, donates blood at the Student Government blood drive.



# AND WE CALLED THIS FUN

**starstruck** With giant smiles, Olivia Harris and Liz Klieser, sophomores, hug each other at the Justo Lamas Spanish concert. "We were both really excited because Justo kissed my hand," Liz said. "The concert was fun. I new all the words for all the songs."



**After 180 days** of waking up early and rushing out the door to beat the 7:45 a.m. bell, June 6 slowly crept around the corner, while students continued to participate in activities inside and outside the building. We soon found that... **we called this fun.**





the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are employed in the public sector has increased by 1.5 million, from 2.5 million in 1980 to 4 million in 1995 (Department of Health 1996).

There is a growing emphasis on the need to improve the quality of care in the public sector. The Department of Health (1996) has set out a number of key objectives for the public sector, including the need to improve the quality of care, to reduce waiting times, to improve the efficiency of the system, and to improve the financial performance of the system. The Department of Health (1996) has also set out a number of key principles for the public sector, including the need to be patient-centred, to be transparent, to be accountable, and to be efficient.

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